

Hafa Adai!

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IN BIZ GROUP'S ECONOMIC DEV'T ROADMAP:

Chamber calls for CUC's privatization

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

First of four parts

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce presented to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Lt. Gov. Victor B. Hocog yesterday an eight-point Economic Development Roadmap with privatizing the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., strengthening the tourism industry, and labor issues part of a plan that would help steer the Commonwealth toward the right direction.

See **CHAMBER** on **Page 4**

OAG files attempted 1st degree murder, 11 other charges vs guard, girlfriend

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

taxi driver during a robbery on Saipan.

The Office of the Attorney General filed yesterday attempted first degree charge and 11 other charges against security guard Carlos A. Ramangmou and his girlfriend over the stabbing of a

» **Judge finds probable cause as to all charges vs guard over stabbing of cabbie**

As this developed, Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho found yesterday during preliminary hearing probable cause as to all charges against Ramangmou.

See **MURDER** on **Page 4**

Operation Valiant Shield well under way in the Marianas

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

ABOARD THE USS RONALD REAGAN—Operation Valiant Shield, a U.S. joint exercise consisting of the Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, Army, and Coast Guard, is well under way in the seas off Guam.

Starting last Sept. 12, the two-week long exercises have been going on every two years.

USS *Ronald Reagan* (CVN-76) Commanding Officer Capt. Buzz Donnelly said Valiant Shield is the U.S.'s largest maritime exercise with joint forces.

"It is really our opportunity to come

together with the U.S. Army, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard along with the Navy and operate as one cohesive unit exercising our tactics from one end of the spectrum to the other for one dedicated two week period," he said during an interview with the media yesterday.

He said Valiant Shield's goal is to in-

See **OPERATION** on **Page 4**



ERWIN ENCINARES

A U.S. Navy F/A-18E/F Super Hornet prepares for launch during Operation Valiant Shield joint exercises on the aircraft carrier USS *Ronald Reagan* yesterday in the waters off Guam. Inset, spotters, the final authority that gives the go signal to launch and land aircraft of the USS *Ronald Reagan*, brief the media on where they are allowed to stand during the exercises.



INSIDE

LOCAL

Korean celebrities Park Ji-yeon and Lee Jae-hoon are the latest in a growing list of international personalities who have agreed to serve as tourism ambassadors.

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Weekend attacks



NATION

To neighbors and customers of his family's storefront chicken takeout, Ahmad Khan Rahami was a friendly, quiet presence behind the counter.

PAGE 15



FOCUS

North Korea is an economic basket case that incomprehensively pours resources into nuclear weapons and cares only about enriching a tiny circle of elites when it can't even feed its own people.

PAGE 18



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Local

IN MEDICAL MALPRACTICE LAWSUIT:

'OAG's argument on common law marriage disregards Carolinian custom'

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

The Office of Attorney General's argument that common law marriage does not exist in the CNMI is incorrect and completely disregards Carolinian custom, according to attorney Claire Kelleher-Smith.

Kelleher-Smith, on behalf of Remedio Elameto and Pedro Pua, asserted that customary common law marriage is widely recognized in the CNMI.

Elameto and her common-law husband, Pua, are suing the CNMI government and

two former Commonwealth Health Center doctors Rajee Iyer and Gary Ramsey for medical malpractice, bad faith, and emotional distress and loss of consortium.

Elameto and Pua asked the Superior Court to hold the defendants liable to pay them damages, court costs, and attorney's fees.

Elameto claimed that a surgical team at CHC allegedly left a 15-centimeter-long surgical clamp in her abdomen during a surgery to address her irregular periods and ovarian cysts at CHC on Saipan in August 2000.

Elameto disclosed that it was in June 2014 or almost 14 years later when the surgical clamp was discovered and removed at Guam Memorial Hospital.

The government, through OAG, then moved to dismiss the lawsuit.

The OAG argued, among other things, that according to the Commonwealth statute of limitations for medical malpractice, the following actions shall be commenced only within two years after the cause of action accrues—"actions for malpractice, error, or mistake against physicians,

surgeons, dentists, medical or dental practitioners, and medical or dental assistants."

In plaintiffs Elameto and Pua's opposition to the motion to dismiss, Kelleher-Smith said the OAG asserts that Elameto and Pua's relationship as husband and wife for nearly three decades deserves no recognition under CNMI law.

Kelleher-Smith said this OAG's assertion is not only deeply offensive, it is also inaccurate.

She said as the U.S. Supreme Court recognized, "the ancient origins of marriage confirm its centrality, but it has not stood in isolation from developments in law and society."

The lawyer said the U.S. high court also stated that, "the history of marriage is one of both continuity and change."

Kelleher-Smith said that in the CNMI, the history of marriage is also one of "continuity and change," with the customs of the Chamorro and Carolinian peoples surviving the colonial administration of Spain, Germany, and Japan.

She said Elameto and Pua are both Carolinians, and that marriage under Carolinian custom requires little formality.

Kelleher-Smith said as the complaint alleges, Elameto and Pua have lived as husband and wife since 1987, and have been recognized in the CNMI community, by the CNMI, and by the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. as common

law spouses.

She cited that even the CHC medical records for the surgery at issue in this case, list Pua as Elameto's "common law spouse."

Kelleher-Smith noted that the CNMI Supreme Court, at least six times, has referred to common law marriages on the assumption that they exist.

She said references to common law marriage are also made in CNMI regulations.

The lawyer cited that "common law marriage" is defined in the homestead regulations.

Kelleher-Smith said because common law marriage is widely accepted in the CNMI, and is recognized by CNMI law, including statutory, judicial and customary law, common law spouses can assert a claim for loss of consortium in this jurisdiction.

Under CNMI law, she said, Pua is no less deserving of the full and uninjured society, affection, attention, and companionship of his spouse of nearly 30 years, than someone who entered a marriage through traditions rooted in English or American law.

Accordingly, the lawyer said, the government's motion to dismiss Pua's claim for loss of consortium must be denied.

Kelleher-Smith said Elameto and Pua presented their claim to the OAG on March 1, 2016, less than two years after the surgeons at Guam Memorial Hospital discovered the clamp left inside Elameto's abdomen.

"It is wholly arbitrary, and unsupported by any legitimate government interest, for the CNMI government to refuse to appropriately insure against medical malpractice, to refuse to invest in quality medical care for the people of the CNMI, and to refuse to compensate victims of medical malpractice committed by government employees," she said.

The lawyer said the statute of limitations does not bar plaintiffs' claims.

She said the OAG first incorrectly argues for dismissal based on the affirmative defense of statute of limitations, asserting that Elameto's medical malpractice claim, and Pua's derivative loss of consortium claim, were not timely filed.

The lawyer said this argument is incorrect because the face of the complaint explains why this action was brought more than two years after Dr. Ramsey's and the Commonwealth Healthcare Center's wrongful acts.

In making these arguments and assumptions, she said, the OAG disparages Elameto, and trivializes and even mocks the injury she suffered at the hands of government employees.

The lawyer said there is no possible justification for these insults to Elameto's dignity, and it is precisely this approach the OAG that supports Elameto's continuing claims of bad faith.

See OAG's on Page 4

Hocog proclaims Child Passenger Safety Week

Acting governor Victor B. Hocog proclaimed Sept. 18-24 as Child Passenger Safety Week last Friday at the Governor's Office conference room on Capitol Hill.

The proclamation was made in recognition of the safety and welfare of child passengers all around the U.S. As of Sept. 16, the CNMI has joined forces with 50 states, the District of Co-

lumbia, and other U.S. territories in requiring the use of car seats for children.

The goal of the proclamation is to educate parents and caregivers about the proper transportation of children in a motorized vehicle.

Statistics show that there was an average of 321 injuries, including fatalities of children everyday in 2014. CNMI Child Restraint Us-

age Rate during 2014 was 71.20 percent, while 2015 saw a 6.68-percent decrease, amounting to 64.52 percent.

The CNMI is now working with safety advocates to ensure each child's safety. Car safety checks will be held across the country, with Saturday, Sept. 24, being National Seat Check Saturday. (Erwin Encinares)



JON PEREZ

Acting governor Victor B. Hocog poses for a group photo with Department of Public Safety and Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services officials and officers at the Governor's Office on Capitol Hill last Friday.

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DCCA-DYS parent leader receives 2016 national award

Candy Panaga, a parent leader who continues to serve the Division of Youth Services parents and others in the community for well over seven years, was awarded the 2016 Jolly K. Award last Sept. 2 during the last day of the 2016 National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect in Washington, D.C.

The Division of Youth Services, through the CNMI Parents Anonymous Inc. group (an accredited DYS parent support group), submitted a nomination for the award to the National Parents Anonymous Inc. in January 2016.

The Jolly K. Award recognizes a Parents Anonymous Parent Leader who exemplifies strong Parent Leadership as first modeled by Jolly K., the founding parent of Parents Anonymous.

"Jolly K. sought help for herself and her family, which created a national movement that has provided help, support, strength and hope to hundreds of thousands of families since 1969 through community-based Parents Anonymous groups."

The 2016 nominee submission was the second year that DYS had forwarded a nomination for the award.

Through her untiring



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Division of Youth Services parent leader Candy Panaga receives the 2016 Jolly K. Award last Sept. 2 during the last day of the 2016 National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect in Washington, D.C.

commitment and leadership roles, Panaga bested other nominees from the worldwide Parents Anonymous Network. Panaga's accomplishments these past seven years include taking on parent leadership roles during support group meetings, recruitment of other parents for the group, ongoing engagement in numerous DYS outreach and public awareness activities, instructing during DYS Summer Camp, participation and planning for DYS proclamations and events and assisting other parents in obtaining community assistance services, including

those in crisis.

Panaga has continued to work endlessly to transition not only her life, but also touch the lives of many in the community.

"It was truly an honor to be able to put the CNMI on the spotlight as it was also a first time for the Division of Youth Services to receive a national award with the Parents Anonymous Inc. What is even more important now is to bring this award home and continue to work with parents in our community through empowerment programs that will allow for peer support, most especially

working with parents that are facing challenges in their homes," said DYS administrator Vivian Sablan.

The award was presented by Elaine Stedt from the Children's Bureau Office on Child Abuse and Neglect under the Administration for Children and Families (ACF), U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services and joined by Dr. Lisa Pion-Berlin, president and chief executive officer of the National Parents Anonymous, Inc.

Joining Panaga in receiving the award was DYS

administrator Vivian Sablan, Jennifer Teigita (DYS Saipan caseworker), Augusta Famaw (DYS Tinian caseworker), and Mildred Sikebert (DYS Rota caseworker).

Panaga was also awarded locally for the Jolly K. Award during the Parent Leadership Month Parent Development Workshop in February 2016.

DCCA-DYS is currently accredited through the National Parents Anonymous Inc. and is conducting PA group sessions on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. For more information, you may contact 664-2550/287-2847. **(PR)**

CEC to tackle appointment of executive director

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Election Commission will hold a meeting tomorrow, Thursday, and one of topics in the agenda is the appointment of their executive director.

CEC chair Frances M. Sablan set the hearing at the Pedro Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe at 1pm.

Aside from the appointment of executive director, also included is the agenda is the absentee applications matter.

The Office of the Attorney General has informed CEC that they will continue to serve as their legal counsel.

Without a legal counsel's opinion, CEC has not acted during its last board meeting on whether to appoint acting CEC executive director Julita A. Villagomez to the permanent position.

The CEC commissioners decided to seek legal opinion first as to whether the board has authority to appoint an executive director.

Villagomez has been serv-

ing as acting CEC executive director since 2014. She has been employed with CEC for 28 years now. Villagomez first worked at CEC as an administrative assistant in 1988, then she became an administrative officer.

The executive director's position was vacated after now Department of Public Safety Commissioner Robert Guerrero was appointed as Department of Corrections commissioner in early 2015. Sablan then appointed Villagomez as the acting executive director.

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Saipan casino abiding by license agreement

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The exclusive casino license holder on Saipan said that it would continue to abide by what was agreed upon on the license agreement. Imperial Pacific International (CNMI), LLC, the parent company of Best Sunshine

International, Ltd., was given a 40-year license to build and operate an exclusive gaming facility on the island.

“[IPI] would continue to follow and meet what is required based on the exclusive casino license agreement. Currently the import labor is at 45 percent,” said IPI in a statement released to

the media.

Gaming is the only division of the company where a huge number of employees are foreigners, mostly from the Philippines where a number of casinos have been operating for decades, since there are insufficient “talents on the island.”

IPI added that more locals

would be hired when its non-gaming divisions, the hotel and resort, opens. IPI is aiming to open the first phase of its multibillion-dollar casino resort on Jan. 28, 2017.

“We are going to submit the annual plan for workforce employment before November 2016 as required by casino license agree-

ment,” added IPI on its statement.

The Commonwealth Casino Commission, during its board meeting last week, asked IPI officials to submit a quarterly report on its workforce operations and encouraged them to train and hire more local or U.S. citizens as employees.

IPI vice president for human resources Bertha Leon Guerrero told the CCC board members that they continue to exert effort in trying to lure U.S. citizens, especially those who are studying or currently based in the mainland, to come back to the CNMI and work for them.

CCC officials also asked

Leon Guerrero if reports were true that their temporary gaming facility has a high employee turnover rate, either by resignation or termination.

“As far as terminations, what I know would really be on performance of employees and attendance. As far as resignation, we do exit interviews but I’m not personally involved.

Some don’t want to engage in exit interviews or interview survey,” said Leon Guerrero.

She added that the gaming industry is fast paced and that’s why all employees need to be on their toes all the time.

Bicameral committee convenes today

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The bicameral conference committee will convene today hoping to finally reach an agreement and break the budget impasse that could cause a partial government shutdown. House Bill 19-196 is an act that would fund the operations of the CNMI government, its agencies, instrumentalities, and other programs.

HB 19-196 was introduced by House Ways and Means committee chair Antonio P. Sablan (Ind-Saipan), who was previously one of the conferees but went on compassionate leave after the death of his mother.

The bicameral conference is now tasked to pass the budget after the House voted, 18-2, to reject the Senate version in last Saturday’s emergency session at the House chamber at the Hon. Jesus P. Mafnas Memo-

rial Building in Capitol Hill.

Rep. Felicidad T. Ogunoro (R-Saipan), the committee vice chair, replaced Sablan with vice speaker Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) and from the Minority bloc Rep. Anthony T. Benavente (Ind-Saipan) completing the House panel.

Senate Fiscal Affairs committee chair Sen. Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian), Senate vice president Sen. Arnold I.

Palacios (R-Saipan), and floor leader Steve K. Mesngon (R-Rota) are the members of the Senate panel.

There are only nine days left—seven working days—in the 2016 fiscal year. FY 2017 begins on Oct. 1, 2017. The budget bill should have been received and signed by Gov. Ralph DLG Torres but unforeseen circumstances caused some delays, according to Sablan.

OPERATION

From Page 1

crease efficiency in operations amongst the various armed service branches.

“Typically, we are disaggregated and are split up conducting real world operations throughout the entire Pacific Asiatic region,” said Donnelly.

The USS *Ronald Reagan* is not the only naval carrier that is conducting Valiant Shield, but the group is more focused on tactical amphibious operations.

“In addition to Carrier Strike Group 5 and Battle Force Seventh Fleet, which is centered around a carrier strike group, we also have Expeditionary Strike

Group 7, which is the Seventh Fleet’s expeditionary group. [The group] embarks marines and conducts amphibious operations. They’re centered around the USS *Bonhomme Richard*, which sails out of Sasabo, Japan,” said Donnelly.

According to Donnelly, the USS *Ronald Reagan* is the flagship of the Seventh Pacific Fleet, along with other significant roles.

“The USS *Ronald Reagan* is the flagship for Battle Force Seventh Fleet, or Carrier Strike Group 5. We serve as the center of our maritime strike capability of the Pacific Fleet. On board we have the admiral and his staff, along with the Carrier Air Wing 5, and Cruiser Squadron Group 15.

The *Ronald Reagan* serves as the core of that along with our other nine ships, providing the maritime capability,” said Donnelly. “Here at Valiant Shield, we are providing the strike capability for the U.S. Navy working in this joint exercise including the U.S. Air Force, U.S. Marine Corps, and the Coast Guard.”

As well as being the center of the maritime capability of the Pacific Fleet, the USS *Ronald Reagan* is also the Navy’s only fore deployed aircraft carrier and the only fore deployed strike group.

“As fore deployed to the Seventh Fleet, we are always on station. Out at sea, we spend typically about 90 days at sea at a time and we do that several times a year as a strike group patrolling

from the Western Pacific to as far as the Indian Ocean as necessary representing the U.S. and serving the Seventh Fleet’s interests.”

The USS *Ronald Reagan* has 3,100 members permanently assigned to the ship, which includes necessary roles such as ship maintenance, engineering systems, flight deck management, and cooks. All in all along with those participating in the exercises, the USS *Ronald Reagan* has 5,000 personnel.

The USS *Ronald Reagan* is a Nimitz-class nuclear-powered supercarrier in the service of the U.S. Navy. The ninth ship of her class, she is named in honor of former President Ronald Reagan, President of the United States from 1981 to 1989.

CHAMBER

From Page 1

Financial services, land issues/zoning/infrastructure, environment, investment, and government operations are the other things highlighted on the EDR, which is the Chamber’s way of reaching “all those affected by economic instability in the [CNMI].”

The EDR is also the Chamber board of directors’ “attempt to engage public and private leadership with the mutually beneficial goal of a more productive and sustainable local economy.”

“The Chamber has decided to pursue the recommendations herein over the course of this Chamber administration with the help and part-

nership of the CNMI government and other private sector groups,” the EDR’s introduction read.

Tourism, services, construction, gaming, and the government are the CNMI’s only industries that the Commonwealth is relying for revenues.

Federal and local legislation, revenue laws and regulations, and local tax corporate and individual rebate structure are the things that built the CNMI economy. “This remains much the same today but what avails itself of the Commonwealth’s ‘formula’ has changed dramatically,” the financial services part of the report noted.

Businesses “must be able to rely upon sound and reliable financial governance,

unwavering tax structure, and sound financial institutions,” the report added. The CNMI should look into import protections, preparing for accountancy training and certification to compensate for loss of CW accountants, and providing small businesses with capital to start or to grow.

The report is also suggesting that CUC should be privatized so it would give the chance to future developers to build larger complexes and install their own power production. “Focus on power distribution rather than production by supporting Independent Power Production,”

Protecting current employment, however, must be considered in allowing private companies or corporations

in taking over some government functions and agencies. “Privatization will eliminate excessive waste while providing services at a more reasonable cost and making service providers accountable to profiting shareholders.”

Operations of solid waste management is another area the Chamber report noted should be privatized since universal trash collection would help reduce illegal dumping sites and littering both in public and private lands.

“The current transfer station and landfill are not working efficiently. There are insufficient funds to fix pumps. Privatizing these operations would encourage private companies to build additional transfer stations and facilities.”

OAG’s

From Page 4

In the CNMI, Kelleher-Smith said, there is no established rule for the accrual date of medical malpractice claim due to foreign object left in patient’s body.

She said when a foreign object is left in the body of medical patient, “the common-law rule, as generally understood and applied in the U.S., is that the action

accrues when the foreign object is discovered.”

Kelleher-Smith said the plaintiffs, by filing within two years of discovering the clasp that had been left in Elameto’s body by CHC surgeons, timely brought their action.

She said the OAG’s assertion that Elameto did not act with “reasonable diligence” is a factual determination that is disputed; moreover, it is beyond dispute that the OAG’s opinion is no substitute for medical evidence.

MURDER

From Page 1

Camacho ordered the 26-year-old Ramangmou to answer the charges of attempted first degree murder, robbery, kidnapping, aggravated assault and battery, assault with a dangerous weapon, and theft of vehicle.

Defendant Felisha Ann Basa, through court-appointed counsel Kelley Butcher, waived yesterday her right to a preliminary hearing.

Camacho set the arraignment on Sept. 26 at 9am.

At the preliminary hearing, assistant attorney general Chester Hinds, counsel for the government, called to the witness stand Police Detective Myron O. Laniyo.

Laniyo testified how the footage of a store’s surveillance camera led to the positive identification and arrest of Ramangmou and Basa.

Laniyo narrated to the court how the victim avoided further attack by playing dead the night of Aug. 27, 2016 on a dark road in Dandan.

Laniyo said it was Basa who grabbed the victim’s cell phone as Ramangmou poked him with a small knife on the neck, then continuously stabbing him on the right side of the face.

The detective said Ramangmou only stopped the stabbing

when the victim played dead.

Laniyo said the defendants also stole the victim’s \$300 cash.

Shown a photo of the victim’s injuries, Laniyo said the victim suffered 11 lacerations to the face and hands.

The detective said after two days in the hospital, the victim still complained of pain and his right hand was still bleeding.

Hinds said there is sufficient evidence against Ramangmou.

Hinds said if the victim did not use his hand to block the knife the injuries could have been fatal.

Hinds said Ramangmou only stopped the stabbing when the victim played dead.

Defense counsel Benjamin Petersburg said there was no indication that the stabbing was planned.

Petersburg said there was nothing in the medical record that the alleged victim required surgery for his injuries or that the injuries were life threatening.

Last May, a surveillance camera also led to the identification and arrest of the 32-year-old Basa for allegedly entering a bar in Chalan Kanoa and stealing the bar owner’s purse containing \$7,000 and other items.

Police said Basa admitted to stealing the purse that she then handed to her boyfriend, Ramangmou. She told police that they then both played poker.

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FOR FAILING TO APPEAR AT STATUS CONFERENCE:

Hillbroom ordered to explain why he shouldn't be sanctioned

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona has ordered Junior Larry Hillbroom to show cause why he should not be sanctioned for failing to appear telephonically at a status conference last Monday afternoon.

Manglona also ordered Hillbroom to explain why he should not be sanctioned for his failure to comply with the court's orders from the Aug. 29, 2016 status conference, including providing an update on the status of his efforts to retain new counsel for this case.

The judge ordered Hillbroom to appear at the show cause hearing on Sept. 30, 2016 at 10:30am.

The trial of Hillbroom's legal malpractice lawsuit against his former lawyers, David J. Lujan and Barry Israel, is currently set for a jury trial on Feb. 22, 2017.

During Monday's status conference, defendants Lujan and Keith Waibel appeared pro se or without a lawyer. Attorneys Theodore Frank and Victorino Torres

appeared on behalf of Israel. All parties appeared telephonically.

In her order to show cause issued Monday, Manglona said because time is of the essence, Hillbroom is ordered to appear on Sept. 29, either personally or telephonically, to show cause why he should not be sanctioned with a fine and/or an order directing that he proceed pro se or without a lawyer.

The judge said Hillbroom's failure to appear at the hearing may result in the more serious sanction of a dismissal of the case.

The court held a status conference last Aug. 29 since granting the withdrawal of Hillbroom's former counsel Girardi Keese and the law office of Mark Hanson on Aug. 15, 2016.

After the status conference, on Sept. 1, 2016, Hillbroom submitted via email three sets of communications directly to the courtroom deputy, not to the clerk of court's office at the court's general email address.

In doing so, Manglona said, Hillbroom failed to share these communications with any of the other parties on the case, and his emails were not received and acted upon timely by any of the clerks on regular duty to monitor the incoming emails.

Manglona said two of the three sets of emails show Hillbroom's efforts to retain Toby McLaughlin from Sandpoint, Idaho as his new attorney.

However, Manglona said, this exchange of emails ended on Sept. 1, 2016.

As of yesterday, the judge said, no new counsel has made an appearance in this case on behalf of Hillbroom.

The third set of the emails pertains to two proposed court orders from the Palau Trial Court Division.

Manglona said both are unsigned by the Assistant Attorney General and the judge assigned to the case.

Manglona said they do not confirm Hillbroom's ability to travel outside of Palau pending his two criminal cases.



Manglona

The judge said all pending deadlines remain as ordered except for the depositions scheduled for September 2016.

Those depositions, she said, were cancelled on Aug. 29, 2016.

The Supreme Court of the Republic of Palau Trial Division has allowed the temporary release of Hillbroom upon posting a cash bail of \$275,000 and required him to provide a copy of any notice of deposition, hearing or other court-required appearance for his lawsuits in the CNMI and other jurisdictions.

Last April 20, Palau Trial Division Associate Justice Lourdes Materne granted Hillbroom's temporary release upon posting \$275,000 cash bail subject to conditions, including a sign of waiver of extradition and no travel outside Palau without court's approval.

Last June 7, Materne also granted Hillbroom's motion for modification of his conditions of release.

Materne required Hillbroom to submit to the court with his applications a copy of any notice of deposition, hearing or other court-required appearance for his lawsuits in the NMI, Hawaii, and California.

Hillbroom, one of the four DNA-proven children of the late business tycoon and DHL co-founder Larry Lee Hillblom, was recaptured in Palau hours after he allegedly escaped from police's custody last Feb. 19, just a few days after he was arrested over the seizure of 160 grams of methamphetamine or "ice" worth \$160,000.

Hillbroom, 31, was recaptured after he allegedly dove into the water and tried to swim when police tracked a vehicle at a dock in a town

called Meyuns Hamlet in Palau, according to news reports.

Hillbroom pleaded not guilty.

Hillbroom's mother, Kaelani Kinney, is a Palauan. Hillbroom is based in the U.S. mainland.

Hillbroom's name is spelled differently from DHL co-founder Larry Hillblom.

Hillbroom is suing Lujan and Israel for allegedly conspiring with former trustee to inflate the attorney's contingency fee when Hillblom's fortune was still undergoing probate proceedings in Superior Court.

Hillblom, founder of DHL Express, died in a plane crash off Anatahan waters in 1995. His body was never recovered.

Approximately \$100 million in assets were distributed to Hillbroom in the settlement of the probate case for the Hillblom estate.

SIS receives 21 AP Scholars Awards



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A few AP Scholars at Saipan International School celebrate with a short break.

Twenty-one Advanced Placement Scholar Awards were presented to Saipan International School students in recognition of demonstrated exemplary college-level achievement on AP exams.

The Advanced Placement program, administered by College Board, allows motivated, academically-able students the chance to take rigorous university-level classes while in high school and earn university credit for them. AP Scholar Awards are academic distinctions for students to cite among their credentials on applications and résumés. Students do not receive any monetary award from the College Board.

Four students at Saipan International School earned

the AP Scholar with Distinction award by receiving an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP exams taken and scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams. These students were Donghee Im, Daniel Lim, Quintin Ramsey, and Cerinn Hwang. These four students successfully completed 28 AP courses with an average score of 3.96 out of 5 possible points.

Five additional students qualified for the AP Scholar with Honor Award by receiving an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP exams taken and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams. These students were Donggu Hyon, Emily Frink, Natalie Hardt, Colin Ramsey, and Kaiyeesha Tambakau.

Another 12 students earned the AP Scholar Award by successfully completing three or more AP exams with scores of 3 or higher. The AP scholars were Thomas Lim, Kennedy Izuka, Myunjae Cho, Maureen Doculan, Jaehoon Jang, Jeongwoo Kim, Jiwoo Kim, Haram Lee, Stephanie Lee, Alexandra Lee-Sang, Shirley Qian, and Sung Jun Yoon.

A committee of university faculty and experienced AP teachers develop the exams in order to ensure that the standards expected at leading U.S. universities are met. These exams and the courses that accompany them also help students to demonstrate their commitment to academic excellence during the university application process. (PR)



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS

CUC-IFB-16-023

ISLAND WIDE ROAD RESTORATION FOR WATERLINE REPAIRS, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Island Wide Road Restoration for Waterline Repairs, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity work consists of excavation, placing of flowable fill and asphalt to replace pavement areas cut by CUC to repair waterlines. Payment is only for the items completely installed and accepted by CUC and the Department of Public Works. The duration of the contract is one year (365 calendar days) from date of award with an option to extend for an additional year if exercised by CUC.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on **September 22, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) Original and Seven (7) Hard Copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "Island Wide Road Restoration for Waterline Repairs, Saipan" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on October 12, 2016**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bids shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders.

The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on **September 26, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer, via email - manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Robert Malate, CUC Water & Wastewater Engineer, via email - robert.malate@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC P&S Administrative Support Assistant, via email - marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

BUSINESS BRIEFS**Military exercise on Tinian today**

This is to advise the people of Tinian and the general public that the military, as part of their exercise, will be conducting ongoing training today, Sept. 21, 2016. There will be restricted access to runway Able and Baker and the Japanese Air Ops Buildings at Northfield, as well as Chulu beach on this day. (PR)

Health insurance open enrollment presentation for GovGuam employees, retirees

TAMUNING, Guam—Senator Dennis G. Rodriguez Jr., chairman of the Committee on Health, is inviting active and retired employees of the Government of Guam to participate in a presentation of the Fiscal Year 2017 Gov-Guam Health Insurance Open Enrollment.

Representatives from Calvo's SelectCare, Moylan's NetCare, and TakeCare will be on hand to present their programs and provide information for individuals who may wish to enroll in the program of their choice.

The presentation will be conducted on Thursday, Sept. 22, from 5:30pm to 7pm in the Guam Legislature Public Hearing Room in Hagatna.

The presentation will be televised live on GTA Channel 21 and Docomo Channel 117. (PR)

Mobile consular outreach on Saipan postponed

The Philippine Consulate General in Agana, Guam has postponed until further notice its scheduled mobile consular outreach for September 2016 due to non-availability of travel funds.

The new schedule for mobile consular outreach on Saipan will be announced and posted on the Consulate General's website and Facebook page. (PR)

AMP launches 2016 Every Kid in a Park program

American Memorial Park encourages all fourth graders to visit the park this year as part of the Every Kid in a Park program.

The Every Kid in a Park program is an Administration-wide effort between the Department of the Interior, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of the Army, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

The program continues each year with the then-current group of fourth graders. After 12 years, every school-age child in America will have had an opportunity to visit their public land and waters for free, inspiring the next generation to be stewards of our nation's shared natural and cultural heritage.

For more information, please visit www.everykidinapark.gov and follow the program on Twitter @everykidinapark, Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube. (PR)

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NEX Mini Mart/Gas Station
Tumon
Yigo Shell Station

SAIPAN LOCATIONS:

Gualo Rai
Chalan Piao
Paseo de Marianas, Garapan

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Your Next Stop – Imperial Pacific Resort



Date: Thursday, 22 Sep 2016

Time: 9:00am-12:00pm and 1:30pm-5:00pm

Venue: Northern Marianas College, Tinian Instructional Site –
Room D, P. O. Box 459, Tinian, MP 96952

RECRUITMENT DAY**FOOD & BEVERAGE**

Server II	27
Bartender	22
Bar Back	14
Commis I	30
Commis II	20

HOTEL OPERATIONS

Supervisor - Housekeeping	3
Room Attendant	25
Supervisor - Public Area	5
Public Area Attendant	20
Laundry Attendant	10
Laundry Runner	2
Linen Attendant	5
Beach Attendant	5

FINANCE

Cage Cashier	15
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Parade of Cultures on Sept. 24 on Saipan



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Carolinian community performs at the International Festival of Cultures on Sept. 17, 2016. The Carolinian and other communities will be featured as part of the Parade of Cultures in downtown Garapan on the final night of the festival on Sept. 24, 2016.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Samoa/Tonga/Fiji communities show their cultural pride and ethnic costumes at the International Festival of Cultures on Sept. 17, 2016.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Members of the Chuukese community at the International Festival of Cultures on Sept. 17, 2016.

The Parade of Cultures featuring ethnic costumes will highlight this Saturday evening's 2nd Annual International Festival of Cultures. The parade route begins at the Carolinian Utt in Garapan and continues north on Beach Road to Paseo de Marianas. The parade begins at 5pm, while participants are reminded to assemble at the parade starting point at 4pm.

"Our Parade of Cultures on Saturday will be a must-see for visitors and residents, alike," said MVA Community Projects Specialist and event coordinator Ryan Calvo. "There's no better opportunity to experience the sounds, sights, and flavors of our diverse community than the International Festival of Cultures, and we look forward to an exciting closing night this weekend."



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The community of Samoa/Fiji/Tonga performs at the International Festival of Cultures on Sept. 17, 2016, in Saipan. The festival is held every Saturday in September from 5pm to 10pm, at Paseo de Marianas and features hands-on demonstrations, live performances, arts and crafts sales, ethnic cuisine, and more.

Following the parade, the festival will feature a full night of stage entertainment: the Chinese community at 6pm, the Japanese community at 6:35pm, the Korean community at 7pm, the Chuukese community at 7:15pm, the Filipino community at 7:30pm, the Hawaiian community at

8pm, the Bangladeshi community at 8:45pm, the Tahiti/Marquesas/Cook Island community at 9pm, Samoa/Tonga/Fiji community at 9:15pm, the Chamorro community at 9:30pm, and the Carolinian community at 9:45pm.

Other cultures participating the festival include the Mar-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Japanese and other ethnic food is sold at the International Festival of Cultures on Sept. 17, 2016, in Saipan.

shall Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia. This year, the MVA and participating cultures has put equal emphasis on stage entertainment and hands-on experiences. The festival also includes arts and crafts and ethnic cuisine.

"Certainly, we couldn't have made the festival available to the community without the partnership of our sponsors and supporters, both public and private. Our sincere thanks to them again this year," said MVA managing director Christopher A. Concepcion.

"The MVA's signature events such as the International Festival of Cultures are an integral of our annual schedule to host events that attract or add value to the trip of visitors and give them an opportunity to mingle with the local community."

The festival is sponsored by PDM Promoters, Team PDI, Division of Parks and Recreation, Department of Public Safety, Department of Public Works, Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture, KKMP, Best Sunshine Int'l, and Power 99.

Korean celebrities appointed CNMI tourism ambassadors

Korean celebrities Park Ji-yoon and Lee Jae-hoon are the latest in a growing list of international personalities who have agreed to serve as tourism ambassadors for the Northern Mariana Islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

The Marianas Visitors Authority recently announced the appointment in Korea, where the two will actively promote the NMI through August 2017.

"We're extremely pleased to announce our appointment of Park Ji-yoon and Lee Jae-hoon as our newest NMI Tourism Ambassadors," said MVA managing director Christopher A. Concepcion. "Both of them have visited the Northern Marianas before and have a massive fan following. We expect to generate a lot of excitement in the market through their participation in the activities of the MVA's of-

fice in Korea."

Park and Lee will visit the NMI for leisure and business and post their experiences on their social media outlets, work on media tie-up programs, host or provide entertainment at select MVA events, and film video clips and shoot photos for social media and MVA collaterals.

Park is a media personality who started her career as an anchor for KBS and is now a freelance media personality and an entrepreneur. The mother of two recently started her own business, a swimming suit line and a smoothie brand. She also operates a blog and an Instagram with more than 325,000 followers. She appeared in the TV show "Gourmet Road" on channel Y Star and visited Saipan to introduce epicurean culture and food and the Taste of the

Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden.

"Park is a successful role model for women in their 30s and 40s, bringing strong influence and positive public opinion to her new role as our tourism ambassador," said Concepcion. "She is a successful working mom with enthusiasm and positive energy."

Lee was a leader of a K-pop group called "Cool." The group debuted in 1994 and has had a number of hit songs, largely dance music with a summer theme. He is now a solo artist and media personality appearing in TV shows as a panel, entertainer, and MC, and singer. Lee is known as a life stylist who enjoys a variety of leisure activities, sports, traveling, dining, and such.

"Lee knows Saipan. He has a scuba diving instructor's license and has visited Saipan



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Korean celebrities Park Ji-yoon, left, and Lee Jae-hoon have been appointed by the Marianas Visitors Authority as Northern Mariana Islands tourism ambassadors.

over 30 times," said Concepcion. "He also played a major role in filming KBS' recent "Battle Trip" Saipan episode, giving a lot of input before and

during the filming due to his familiarity with the Northern Marianas and his local connections. What a plus to have a tourism ambassador who is

so personally familiar with the islands!"

Lee operates an Instagram account with nearly 45,000 followers. (PR)

ESFDB 2.5-Mile Bull Run/Walk a success

Last Saturday, Sept. 17, Eskuelan San Francisco de Borja held its 2nd Annual ESFDB 2.5-Mile Bull Run/Walk fundraiser.

This year's fundraiser is led by the school's Student Body Council Organization (STUCO) and their fellow students.

"Our annual Run/Walkathon is one of the most challenging and exciting ways to support our school," said STUCO president Jeremy John Atalig, II.

"The funds raised will go toward our students' activi-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Eskuelan San Francisco de Borja STUCO officers, students, and alumni pose for a souvenir photo.

Big changes at Bubba Gump Saipan

Due to popular demand, Bubba Gump Shrimp Co. Saipan is now offering two daily discounted specials every day of the week.

Homemade specials include: Bourbon Street Mahi

Mahi, Coconut Shrimp, Scampi, Grilled Seafood Trio, Shrimper's Net Catch, and a whole lot more.

The specials change daily so customers never get bored. The daily specials are only the beginning of a long list of culinary and menu additions for the 44th Bubba Gump location.

Other changes include, indoor and outdoor happy hour with small bites and drink specials. An island first, on the patio, happy hour will be served 3pm-10pm every day. Inside,

3pm-6:30pm.

Recently installed outdoor ceiling fans keep the patio cool and comfortable during the day, perfect to enjoy the extended happy hour specials. Drink specials include buckets of beer, glasses of wine and cocktails. Bites include sliders, chicken tenders, nachos, shrimp, and more. Bites range in price from \$5 to \$7.

"We really wanted to give our customers something extra, like happy hour till 10!" said Ringo Medina, Bubba Gump Shrimp general manager. "Our patio is perfect to spend some time after work or on weekend with friends. And,

we are so excited about what's coming up next."

The chefs at Bubba Gump are currently working to develop recipes for locally-inspired menu options.

"We are really wanting to use some of the beautiful local ingredients in our recipes. We can't wait to reveal what we come up with," said chef Frank Navarro.

You can find more updates and giveaways including a brand new aloha shirt on their Facebook page at: <http://www.facebook.com/bubbagump-shrimpsaipan/> or call to make reservations at (670) 233-8592. (PR)

ties and students incentives," added Atalig, II.

Atalig II also stated "Mostly importantly it's a great way to spend a healthy fitness day with parents, families, and friends."

"I applaud the STUCO officers and students for leading this year's annual event. They did a great job soliciting pledges to help their school," said administrator and principal Carmen H. Atalig.

"The Run/Walkathon serves as one of the school's biggest fundraiser, to not only help their school, but also to promote healthy lifestyle with the students and parents," added Atalig.

In addition, Atalig praised the courage of one of the kindergarten student and the youngest amongst his schoolmates, Dane Mesngon who made the 2.5-mile walk without taking a rest.

Mesngon enjoyed his walk and it was a great experience. His grandfather Ignacio Mesngon was there to witness his grandson cross the

finish line.

Also, present was last year's STUCO president Angelo S. Lucero. Lucero showed his support by participating at his alma mater's event.

"Our goal with this run/walkathon is to draw attention to health. I encourage parents and children to change their lifestyle by selecting healthy habits," said board chair Edward Maratita Jr. "An ounce of workout is worth a pound of fitness."

"We congratulate the STUCO officers and their fellow students for leading the fundraising event. They did an outstanding job," added Maratita.

The administration, faculty, staff, board of directors, and students would like to extend their appreciation to the parents, friends, pledge donors, Tita Hocog, resident director Eusebio Manglona and the Department of Public Safety, and deputy director Dennis Mendiola and the Rota Department of Fire and EMS. (PR)

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday, Sis. May the good Lord continue to bless and guide you today and always. We love you, Boogs. Enjoy your special day.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy Birthday to my Nina "Nina Nicole." May today bring you so much love and joy on your special day and many, many more birthdays to come. Thank you for all you do for me. With love, Ezzy-Girl Helgen.



INVITATION FOR BID

MVA-IFB-16-2347: ACQUISITION OF RIDING MOWER FOR MVA TINIAN
MVA-IFB-16-2348: ACQUISITION OF RIDING MOWER FOR MVA ROTA

Closing Date: **October 17, 2016**

Time: **10:00 a.m.**

Submit sealed proposals to:

Marianas Visitors Authority
P.O. Box 500861 CK
Saipan, MP 96950

Interested parties may pick up the scope of work at the **Marianas Visitors Authority** office between 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, except holidays or by visiting the **MVA** website at www.mymarianas.com.

/s/ Marian Aldan-Pierce
MVA Chair, Board of Directors

/s/ Christopher Concepcion
Managing Director

RESIDENTIAL, GOVERNMENT & BUSINESS DISCONNECTION NOTICE

IT&E would like to remind its **RESIDENTIAL, GOVERNMENT & BUSINESS** customers that current billing of accounts are due on or before **Thursday, September 22**. Payments not received by close of business on **Sept. 22** will result in temporary suspension of all telephone services after 6:00PM on that day.

To prevent temporary suspension, customers are hereby advised to kindly pay their bills on or before **Thursday, September 22, 2016**. Disputed billings must be brought to IT&E's attention in person or in writing by **Thursday, September 22**. Customers must pay any current amount due, to avoid disconnection.

If you have questions regarding billing or services please call Customer Service at 682-4ITE (4483) or visit our Customer Service or Business Sales Center - Middle Rd., Gulao Rai office.



Life In Motion

To avoid disconnection you may pay your IT&E bill at any location below:

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Tinian/Rota Office - up to 4:30pm
TSL Plaza - up to 6:00pm
Online payment - up to 9:00pm

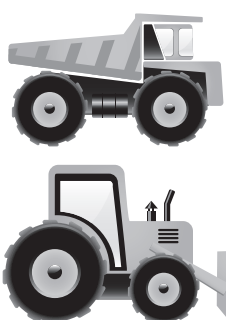
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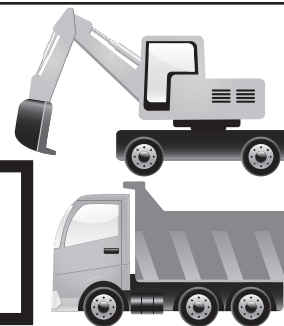
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Opinion

Hafa Adail

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

Price controls not a bowl of cherries

The Great Depression was notorious for its ill-conceived government interventions to prop up prices and “create” jobs through unnecessary and unproductive make-work programs, which only served to prevent needed corrections in the economy and ended up prolonging the depression. Yet, many of these policies persist to this day. A Michigan cherry farmer recently illustrated the fallacy of one such example: agricultural “marketing orders.”

Under a marketing order, growers of certain agricultural commodities form what is, essentially, a cartel and turn over crop supply decisions to boards overseen by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (or a similar agency at the state level), which are empowered to try to “stabilize” markets. During bumper years, the government sets restrictive quotas to artificially suppress the supply of crops, thereby raising prices higher than the free-market rate.

Such arrangements were authorized by the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1937. Today there are marketing orders for roughly three dozen agricultural products, including milk, fruits, vegetables, nuts and specialty crops. One of those marketing orders, the Cherry Industry Administrative Board, covers tart cherries grown in seven states — Michigan, New York, Pennsylvania, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wisconsin.

The CIAB recently directed farmers to prevent a portion of their crops from making it to the market in an attempt to bump up prices. For cherry farmer Marc Santucci, owner of Santucci Farm in Traverse City, Mich., this order, which came just four days before his harvest, meant that he had to dump 40,000 pounds of his tart cherries — 14 percent of his crop. The CIAB even sends people out to ensure that farmers have dumped their crops on the ground, where they are left to rot.

Santucci decided to protest the order in a very public way by posting a photo of the dumped cherries on Facebook. The image went viral, and has been shared nearly 67,000 times.

“I posted it because I want people to know that we sometimes do stupid things in this country in (an) attempt to do the right thing — we end up doing the wrong thing,” Santucci told UpNorthLive.com, the website of a local NBC affiliate in Traverse City.

The move is particularly foolish, Santucci said in a separate Facebook post last month, because of the global nature of agricultural markets. “(I)t is a shame that we had to drop 14 percent of our cherries while at the same time (the United States was) importing the equivalent of 200 million pounds of cherries, or 40 percent of U.S. consumption,” he asserted. “The only way we are going to stop the continued growth in imports is to compete head-to-head, not with one arm tied behind our back.”

Such food waste and artificially-high prices would not happen in a truly free market. Agricultural commodities should be subject to the same laws of supply and demand as other goods, which would provide consumers with more food at lower prices, allow for greater competition and encourage a more efficient allocation of farmland for growing various crops. It is the marketing orders themselves which should be allowed to wither and rot.

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Gi Kineppapa` Idat

Manmattu hit guihe na idat `nai tatutuhun biradan kineppapa`. Monhayan tagacha` uttimu eskalera gi haf` offisiota. Dispues, ta gachuñge otru siha manritirau. Bes enkuando, siempre u lamegai mangrasiosu na estoria siha gi fina` dinaña`.

Magahet na i hagas metgot na sensin tatautau-ta maribaha ni dañkulu. Kareran para este na katsada ni unu u soplu. Todu u fan malofan gi inamku` niha. Memorias `nai dumeskansa hagas finaposta siha.

Tai malefaghu ni ayu siha na mañaina-ta i umechayu` bendision, kanai siha ni hu gu`ot desde antes, yan dinaña` tinayuyot yan kanta gi fina` nobena. I metgot na sensian komunida sumedi todumikonose i bisinun niha. Estague` na komunida `nai mandañkulu hit antes gi hilu` pisun tradision.

I lanchu `nai mandaña i familia` an Dameño. Mamatinas si nana manmanñge` siha na fina` boka para i tropa. Tat ti humihot `an katdun punidera ni mañañada` mapega gi lamasa. Agradesi-yun todum finatinas nana kau golai appan pat hinegsa` balensiana!

Gi todum atmos banda, gualu` yan tasi, i dinaña` familia fineni-na pot rinikohen mantension para i lamasan sena. I gualu` `nai manmalulog yan poñga ham piot gi uttimun semana. Esta guaha `nai hana` mahalañgyu` na tiempu i asun kusina gi lanchu yan katin pinegsai siha gi minachum atdau sino biradan para i gima`.

Maseha mamoble hit guinahan materi, tat mas na`magof kumu ti inisunen haf` dididi` guinahata. Guiya este na tiempu `nai trabiha kabales linala` tradision tanu`. Estague` mina` sumen manñge` mababan uttimu latan satdinas sino kechap yan sirasimi` gi maipen hinegsa`.

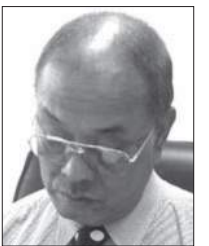
I chenchulu yan fangualu`an, fandañgu yan fiesta che`chu` familia yan i señoñge` `nai mañanau megai gi bisinu manmanna` e geftau tiempun niha. Dañkulu na inapitiye gi entalu` membron komunida guihe siha na tiempu. I fitme na pogse` dinaña` natibu sumusteni todus desde antes.

Selebrasion Noche Buena yan pasgua Resureksion dos fitme na haligen tradision relihion natibu desde kuattru sientos años malofan. Estague` na selebrasion i numana`e tautau-ta sensian esperanza gi ha`anen niha. Siñaha` makat i karera lau siempre tafan mattu gi chita sin ditension. Tai finagpu` na sensia gi tautau-ta i usun espirituat kumu prefektu luseru yan añkla.

Anaku` na karera `nai guaha na pasu` `nai man-matomp` hit. Sin inbatgu ta aguanta problema-ta gi hilu` animu para ta kompili haf` ta petsisige. Magofyu` pot felis lamayot patte finaposta. Gi kadada` na manera hu pega papa` haf` lini`ehu antes para i manatatte na famaguonta. Po`lu ya siha u hinisga puntu siha ni gaige guine na tinige`hu. Estorian fina`pos mañainan miyu!

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.



Estau Politika

Ma-apprueba inestablese otru komision politika guine gi alacha. Ti komprendiyun haf` i motibu fuera ke chechu` hasupag yan mediu ignorante.

Konseptu ni mafanana`an “sovereignty”, supremu na disposision nasion, tana`en ñaihon gi papa` i kontratan i Covenant. Dispues, gi mismu kontrata manmalista haf` siha asuntu `nai debi u guaha inakonfotman dos banda gi mansustansiau siha na asuntu.

Baihu Repite: I lai federat (USPL 94-241) `nai gaige inakonfotman Covenant. Ta konfitma na este na lai supremu fuetsaña gi haf` na lai yan tratus America manmalista papa`. Tana`e federat fuetsan mandispone gi kaprichota ni mafanana`an “sovereignty”. Este solu na palabra chumule` disposision politika ginen iya Marianas petmanente.

I mismu lai pumega Marianas gi papa` banderan Amerikanu. Pues haf` makeke chogue gi inestablesen gueku na komision? Na ti gai representante Marianas gi Kongresson iya Amerika? Na ti este na offisina gai obligasion prumesenta sentimentota gi todum priniponen lai federat? Haf` na para u guaha eksisiu sin probechu?

Mampos na`mamahlau ma-apprueban un` lai ni tai bali. Siempre ilegña i federat taitai haf` gaige gi papa` i kontrata sa` ti sin-edi otru komision. Puru este na aksion hasupag sin inestudia kau guaha seriosamente i federat ha isague gi papa` i kontrata.

Kada ratu hit man-esalau pot “self-government” ya ni fiñkas iya Marianas tatnai balalansia lepbloña. Pues haf` in` sasañgan `nai hamyu mangaige gi puestu pa`gu? Inipus na`mamahlau i taya` sensian areglu gi entalu` kabesiya yan membron lehislatura.

Haf` mohon futtunan famaguonta gi papa` i presente na disareglu siha? Kau este uttimu suspirus gi para ta areglu linala` natibu guine siha na petlas? Ni hamyu mampus man-abarambau hinasun miyu ya kau gi hilu` este `nai para ta gobietnan maisa hit?

See IDAT on Next Page

Religion, and the death of a friend

Last week a friend of mine passed away. I hadn't seen him for a long time, but I knew he was hitting the vodka pretty hard; make that very hard. I learned this from a mutual friend who was extremely concerned.

In the end my friend died of something I never heard of, "failure to thrive."

I asked a doctor about this and he said that it was an antiquated term, a kind of catchall, which usually included dementia and possible alcohol poisoning. So when the diagnosis of death is given as "failure to thrive" it's a gesture of kindness to the friends and family members of the deceased.

Nobody wants to hear, "The poor slob drank himself to death."

When people die, their friends and families often re-embrace their religion for solace.

And yet, most individuals don't give much thought to religion or spirituality unless something tragic happens: someone dies or becomes gravely ill.

As we know, sometimes an illness (such as cancer) will linger for months and the friends and family members endure a horror—watching their friend or relative slowly deteriorate.

It is then that prayers are offered and candles are lighted.

And yet, miracles happen, and are documented by the Catholic Church. So when people pray for their sick friend, it's usually for a miracle (sometimes referred to as a "Holy Intercession.")

Although prayer is a component of every religion, miracles seem to be more evident among Roman Catholic communities.

One thing I have learned in my reading about various religious and spiritual traditions: if a young boy or girl has a deep spiritual experience while still young, it can have a profound influence on his or her life forever.

Such was the case with Edgar Cayce (1877-1946). When he was 12 years old, he was sleeping under a tree beside a river. An angel appeared and spoke to Edgar.

"What do you want to do with your life?" the angel asked.

"I want to help people," replied the boy. The angel then vanished.

Edgar Cayce later became one of the most gifted clairvoyants who ever lived, even surpassing the famous Nostradamus.

Cayce had the remarkable ability to "see" a person; and, if

they were sick, what the cause was, and the appropriate remedy.

Although this smacks of fakery, there are 14,000 documented cases where Edgar Cayce helped people. Not 10, not 50, but 14,000.

A skeptical Harvard professor—assuming Cayce was a fake—wrote to challenge him.

"What did I have for breakfast yesterday?" the professor wrote.

Not only did Cayce supply the answer, he said that the professor was reading his morning mail, and described the content of some of the letters. Then Cayce added, "Pretty snappy pajamas!"

The dumbfounded Harvard professor immediately set out for Virginia Beach (where Cayce lived), saying, "I have to meet this man."

Many other professors and researchers did their best to discredit Cayce; but, in the end, they had to admit that he truly did have astonishing gifts which defied rational explanation.

Although some of Cayce's prophecies have not materialized, his medical clairvoyant abilities remain undisputed.

Padre Pio (1887-1968) was a true mystic, who felt God touch his head when he was 5 years old. Throughout his life, he experienced various visions and ecstasies.

In 1918, Padre Pio, as a young monk, began to experience the stigmata. That is, his hands and feet showed the same wounds that Jesus experienced at the Crucifixion. As well, he bled from the side of his body—corresponding to a spear wound Jesus received.

The stigmata stayed with Padre Pio nearly his entire life and were a great annoyance to him. He didn't mind the pain as much as having to constantly wear bloody bandages.

One of the more remarkable aspects of Pio's mysticism was that he could read people's minds, often in the confessional. If someone neglected to confess a sin, Padre Pio, would ask, "Well, what about... that?" Then the embarrassed person would fess up, perplexed at how Pio even knew about it. There were no secrets from Padre Pio.

My favorite story about the Padre happened during World War II.

"In Bari (Italy) during the Second World War were the headquarters of the American Air Forces General Command. The

By **RUSS MASON**
Special to the Saipan Tribune

For the better part of a decade, Russ Mason wrote for a medical journal, Alternative & Complementary Therapies. His principal assignment was to interview a physician or other health care practitioner about new and important treatments, as well as diet and nutrition. Prior to that, he worked at NBC in New York for 16 years, often as a writer for their television programs.



American Commanding Officer sought to lead a squadron of bombers to destroy a depot of German war materiel that had been located in St. Giovanni Rotondo, the small Italian town where Padre Pio and his fellow monks lived.

"The general reported, "As the airplanes approached the target, my men and I saw, hovering in the sky, a monk with uplifted hands.

"Unexplainably, the bombs dropped prematurely and fell into the woods. The airplanes reversed course without being steered by the pilots. All wondered about the monk, which the airplanes completely obeyed.

The general was told, "At San Giovanni Rotondo is a monk who works miracles," and the general decided that, as soon as the country had been freed, he would go see if it was the same monk he had seen in the sky.

"After the war, the general went to the Capuchin monastery. Upon entering the sacristy, the general immediately recognized the monk which had stopped his airplanes. Padre Pio walked toward him; and, as he approached the general, asked, 'Are you the one who wanted to kill us?'

"Relieved by the look and by the tone of the Padre, the general knelt in front of him. As usual, Padre Pio spoken to him in dialect, but the general was convinced that the monk had spoken in English. This was another Father Pio's gifts. The two became friends and the general, who was protestant, became a Catholic." (Source: Padre Pio on Facebook).

To paraphrase another favorite monk, Thomas Merton: "Mere prayer is not enough, mere desire is not enough. You have to give your whole heart to God. If you can do that, then the miracles start to happen. But you must be patient; you are being tested."

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Our reefs and the epiphany

I'm fortunate to know several people in positions of responsibility within our government who are equipped for their job, passionate, and able to learn. They are not the "old style" person who's willing to "do their best" despite the job requiring far more than "their best."

Doing your best 200 years ago was not a problem. As the man left his family in the morning to gather food for them, his wife would wish him well and he would say, "I'll do my best!" And she would roll her eyes up, shake her head oh so slightly, and smile. If he had a problem with his aim in using the sling, at worst he might hit his neighbor and cause a conflict. Or he might mistake his neighbor's calf as a fish, spear it, and things would become tense. But life is more complicated now and doing your best then falling short can have severe consequences.

Let's call my friend "Bob." I had the chance to visit Bob in his office recently and was pleasantly surprised to be able to chat for some time (usually our conversations are rather short as we're both busy). At one point, I mentioned in passing that "our reefs are almost dead." Bob got pretty agitated, "No there not. In fact, they might have even improved since I started spearfishing." And

so the conversation continued. Bob explained that his mother is the one who motivated him as a teenager to begin spearfishing. This would be his introduction to our reefs, an introduction that doesn't occur when you're just a lad playing in the water with friends. Bob said that the reefs were fine then and may have even improved since then, as he saw things.

I went home that night bothered by the conversation. How could there be such a distinct difference in point of view of our reefs, especially if they were almost dead and a lot was at stake? As I lay awake in bed, reviewing the conversation, I built a timeline in my mind: Before WWII, the reefs were damaged some by the outfall from sugar cane processing. But the damage was likely only localized. WWII saw major devastation to the reefs. It's hard to drive a tank over a reef without breaking a few coral heads (yes, a gross understatement). The next devastating event (and do not assume recovery in the meantime) was the work of the Crown of Thorns Starfish in 1969. A father-son scientific team came and assessed our reefs only to find that LauLau Bay had been spared (the starfish couldn't get past the rough water at each end of the bay) while the rest of the reefs had been destroyed by this outbreak.

The son and his brother, now the world's leading reef scientist with more time in the water and more time at the widest variety of reefs around the world, reassessed the reefs in 1999—30 years later. Between these two dates, Bob started spearfishing in the early 1980s. These two brothers and scientists found very little improvement from the surveys done 30 years earlier. They did find one, small Staghorn Coral just off the beach in Tanapag but otherwise, the reefs were a mess.

Here it is, about 17 years later, and there has still been little improvement and, in fact, more causes have been identified that have caused further reef deterioration such as coral bleaching.

Then came the epiphany! There is no one alive today who can recall with any degree of clarity and accuracy the condition of our undisturbed reefs prior to WWII! Everyone who is living here today has as a benchmark, reefs that were not healthy at the time nor are healthy now. Bob learned to spearfish in reefs that were not healthy. But to him, they were the way they were supposed to be. Their condition then became his benchmark. This is why we need to bring someone in from the outside who has extensive experience in recognizing healthy reefs who can use that background as a benchmark in determining the current condition of the reefs of our southern islands and make recommendations as to how we can see marked improvement. His name is Thomas J. Goreau, PhD. We need to bring him and his little team in to help us get on track. We do not need to spend millions of dollars every year to protect the "almost dead."

We are supposed to be the caretakers of what's been entrusted to us. These island resources are not things for us to trifle over because of government inefficiencies or politics. We're losing time. We need to act now. For those entrusted with the direct responsibility to care for our reefs, please get in touch with Tom (37 Pleasant Street, Cambridge, MA 02139 www.globalcoral.org Skype: tomgoreau Tel: (1) 617-864-4226)

Gary A. Liddle
Capital Hill

IDAT

From Page 10

Diberas guaha `nai hu panag iluhu para bai rikonose kau gua-hu lalaña` pat mangaige este na tropan sabiu gi hegsu` impera-dot I Deni`.

Ti Para Hagu

Haf` na i mas ta adadahe na kosasta finenina poduñg ya madis-grana sino mayamag? Hu aksepta este taimanu finu` man-amku` na guaha ha` ti para hita.

Hu gotde mauleg dos kinine`hu medianu na mineduñg

ayuyu ya hu pega gi tatten siyan i draiba. `Nai mattuyu` gi gima` ni unu gaige. Dispues de hu rikonose kabales hu aksepta na ti para guahu.

Un` biha, chigalun Chamorro ha u`usa diariu. Tatnai hu hu-ñgog baba lilo`ña ya la`la esta`i 103 años. Dios mihu!

`An mayayi i tautau ta poña na u chochu. `Nai yumomug, ta lapbla na u suhaye boka. Manu dinanche na akonsehu?

Ilegña un` prohimu na `an mames mime`mu chochu asiga ya u dinistempla. Dios mihu na abisun otdinariu ni mas pipinu`.

Kada ratu ha choneg hulu` gi hegsu` un` dañkulun achu`. Dis-






pues, ha sotta para u kilulog papa`. Todu dia ha repite mismu malabida. Ileglu na che`chu tatamudu `ste. Haf` mohon?

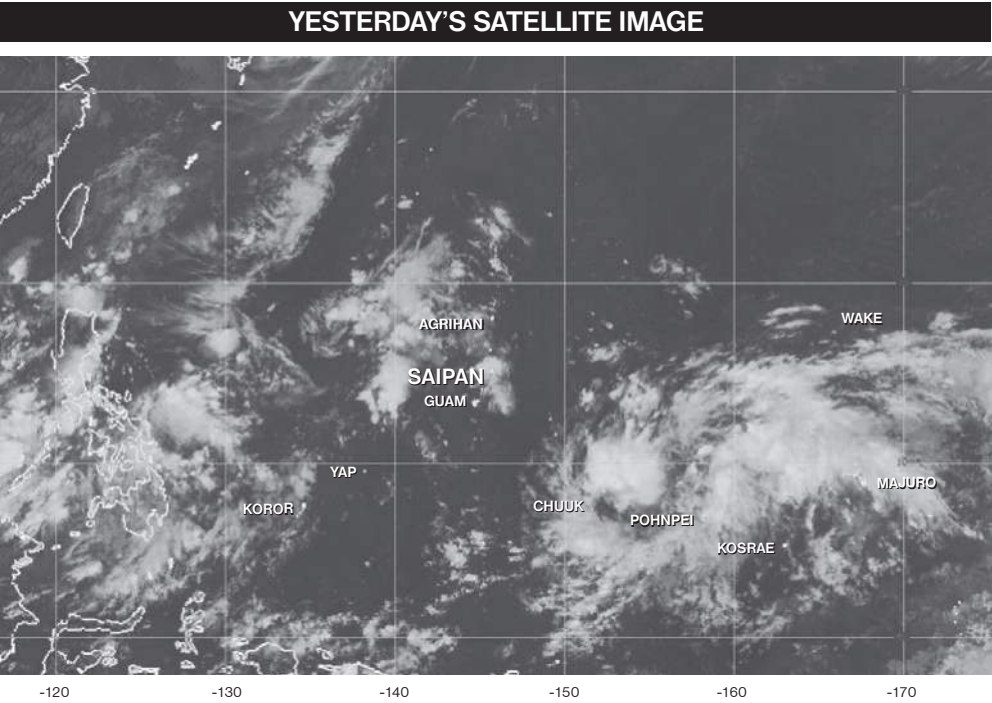
`Nai humalum i saki gi gima, hana` fañila` kandetña ya ha tu-tuhun manaligau haf` para u chuli`. Ha huñgug un` bos ilelegña, "Adahe sa` hulili`e hau ha`". Hali`e guatu un` loru ya hafaisen haye na`aña. Ineppe, "Si Moises".

Ha upus ya sige ta`lu manyalaka` gi halum guma`. Sinañgane ta`lu ni loru, "Adahe sa` hulili`e hau ha`". Tiha attende lau dispues ha siente un` dañkulun pachut galagun gera gi tatteña. Ma-matkilu ya ha galope huyuñg i mas hihot na bintana.

Todu inaka` dagan yan sanotña ni galagu. Ha yakaigue` huyu-ñg ginen i kelat pot uttimu suspirus sino pininu` gi galagu.. Mau-leg bidaña si Moises, i loru!

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN				
TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
				
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. East winds 5 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.
▲ 89° ▼ 79°	▲ 87° ▼ 79°	▲ 89° ▼ 79°	▲ 89° ▼ 79°	▲ 89° ▼ 79°



PICTURE TIME: 5:06 AM, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2016

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Radar shows scattered showers moving west through the Marianas waters, with a slow drying trend moving in from the east. Winds are gentle from the east with seas between 3 and 4 feet. A tropical disturbance is slowly making its way west this morning. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are seen across much of the region from east of Chuuk to Majuro, and northward to near Wake Island. A weak and disorganized surface pattern remains over Yap and Palau. A weak surface trough extends northeast from Koror to just north of Yap.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA ▼ ▲		
Guam and Rota	Afternoon clouds	83 / 90 °F
Palau	Partly cloudy	81 / 89 °F
Yap	Partly sunny	80 / 90 °F
Chuuk	Mostly cloudy	79 / 89 °F
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	73 / 85 °F
Kosrae	Partly cloudy	82 / 87 °F
Majuro	Morning clouds	82 / 86 °F
AROUND THE GLOBE ▼ ▲		
Auckland	Rain showers	52 / 57 °F
Beijing	Afternoon clouds	53 / 78 °F
Hong Kong	Partly cloudy	75 / 84 °F
Honolulu	Partly cloudy	74 / 85 °F
London	Partly cloudy	56 / 71 °F
Los Angeles	Haze	69 / 83 °F
Manila	Mostly cloudy	79 / 89 °F
Melbourne	Mostly cloudy	52 / 56 °F
Miami	Partly cloudy	78 / 88 °F
New York	Sunny	68 / 83 °F
Osaka	Afternoon clouds	70 / 82 °F
Paris	Partly cloudy	47 / 71 °F
Pusan	Partly cloudy	64 / 74 °F
Rome	Morning clouds	60 / 74 °F
Salem	Mostly sunny	47 / 70 °F
San Francisco	Partly sunny	57 / 67 °F
Seoul	Mostly sunny	52 / 76 °F
Tokyo	Mostly cloudy	64 / 74 °F
Washington, DC	Partly sunny	69 / 83 °F

**NMI CRIME STOPPERS**

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PAPA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		
4:55 AM	LOW TIDE	-0.07 Feet
11:18 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.87 Feet
5:15 PM	LOW TIDE	0.79 Feet
10:40 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.92 Feet

SUNRISE / SUNSET		
Today	6:06 AM	6:14 PM
Thursday	6:06 AM	6:13 PM
Friday	6:06 AM	6:12 PM
Saturday	6:06 AM	6:12 PM
Sunday	6:06 AM	6:11 PM

MOONRISE / MOONSET		
Today	10:08 PM	10:13 AM
Thursday	10:03 PM	11:13 AM
Friday	11:59 PM	12:12 AM
Saturday	11:59 PM	1:08 AM
Sunday	12:54 AM	2:01 PM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2016

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily	UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota	UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6	UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily	UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily	UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)				GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)				ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL297	4:20pm	7:00pm	Daily	DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1	LJ651	7:30am	1:10pm	Daily
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily	OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
LJ652	2:10pm	6:05pm	Daily	OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily	7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7	OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	PR1571	9:20pm	3:35am+1	3, 7
PR1572	4:35am	6:45am	1, 4	UA192/6395	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM	PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM	UA184/6395	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6391/193	1:30pm	10:35pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR	UA184/6395	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA6390/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM				
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM				
UA6390/193	2:20pm	10:35pm	2 via GUM-ROR				
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	HX076	5:30pm	12:30am+1	3, 7
UA6391/159	1:30pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM	UA116/6395	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA6390/159	2:20pm	9:55pm	3, 6 via GUM				

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju Air; HX: Hong Kong Airlines; LJ: Jin Air; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure;ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN			6:30PM 6:30PM	6:45PM 6:45PM	Daily Daily	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	SAIPAN TO TINIAN			SAIPAN TO ROTA		
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily	7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily	4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily			
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily			
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily	ROTA TO SAIPAN		
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily	12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily	8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily	4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily			
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily			
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily			

70th anniversary design challenge launched

NOUMEA, New Caledonia—The Pacific Community turns 70 in 2017!

Graphic designers and artists—including amateurs, students and professionals—are invited to help the region celebrate by designing a special 70th anniversary logo.

“Seventy years is a major milestone for our international development organisation and we want people throughout the Pacific to get involved in year-long celebrations in 2017,” SPC’s Director of Strategic and Corporate Communication, Julie Marks, said.

“We’re looking for a striking 70th anniversary design to use alongside the existing Pacific Community logo, something which conveys the SPC family spirit and Pacific identity,” Ms Marks said.

The winner will see his or her logo design featured on the SPC website, social media platforms, event banners and other 70th anniversary materials that will be shared within the region and internationally.

A formal birthday celebration will take place on 28 July 2017 during the 10th Pacific Community Conference in Noumea, New Caledonia.

There is no age limit for the design competition but entrants must hail from one of the 26 country and territory members of the Pacific Community: American Samoa, Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, France, French Polynesia, Guam, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Niue, Northern Mariana Islands, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Pitcairn Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, United States of America, Vanuatu, and Wallis and Futuna.

There is an entry limit of two logo designs per person. Entries should be emailed to media@spc.int.

Please visit the SPC website for the competition entry details.

Entries close at 5pm on Oct. 14, 2016. SPC employees and their family members are ineligible to enter.

SPC was founded in 1947 and has had several name changes over the years: from the South Pacific Commission to the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, and now simply the Pacific Community, but always retaining its well-known abbreviation “SPC.” **(PR)**



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM P.O. BOX 501370 CK, SAIPAN, MP 96950 HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE



PROMOTIONAL & OPEN COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION ANNOUNCEMENT

It is the policy of the State Board of Education, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, that the Public School Personnel System shall be applied and administered according to the principles of equal employment opportunity as defined by the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Public Law 6 – 10, regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disabilities or place of origin.

Applicants for this position must be a U.S. Citizen or be eligible and authorized to work in the U.S., including the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

POSITION/TITLE: COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

EXAMINATION ANNOUNCEMENT NO.: **PSS 2016-175**

OPENING DATE: **September 13, 2016**

CLOSING DATE: **October 13, 2016**

SALARY: PAYLEVEL/GRADE: **UNGRADED** Step(s): **UNGRADED - \$85,000 - \$120,000 PA plus benefits**

BENEFITS: Salary commensurate with qualifications and experience, plus excellent benefits (including Life Insurance, Retirement Benefits, and Paid Leave/Holidays).

LOCATION: **PSS, Board of Education**

The CNMI State Board of Education for the Public School System is seeking a student-centered and exemplary educational leader to serve as the Commissioner of Education.

The Commissioner of Education must be a dynamic, motivated educational leader with a collaborative management style and excellent communication skills and has demonstrated a commitment to education excellence. Additionally, the successful candidate will demonstrate knowledge and experience in applying and implementing current education research and practices and has a clear record of improving student achievement. The successful candidate must also demonstrate organizational knowledge and skills.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- The Commissioner of Education is the Chief Executive Officer of the Public School system and is responsible for all of its operations, programs, and activities.
- The Commissioner is appointed by the Board of Education for a term of four (4) years and serves at the pleasure of the Board.
- This position shall serve as the primary Administrator and Chief Executive Officer of the Public School system (PSS). Duties include:
 1. Compliance with all applicable provisions of the CNMI Constitution, CNMI laws, Board of Education (Board) Policies, and PSS rules and regulations and implementation of Board policies;
 2. Make recommendations to the Board objectives, program plans, functional and personnel organizations, policies, budgets, and capital improvement plans;
- Develops and recommends for approval of the Board, a comprehensive accountability program for all aspects of PSS within ninety (90) days of employment as commissioner.
- Submits to the Board, the Governor, and the Commonwealth Legislature a detailed Annual PSS Education Report which discusses issues, challenges, instructional and academic progress and other subjects the Commissioner may deem necessary within thirty (30) days of the close of each school year.
- Develops and presents to the Board an annual School Performance Report Card for each school. This report will be presented concurrently with the Annual Report.
- Attends and participates in all Board and standing Committee meetings when requested to do so by the chair of that respective committee;
- Works with the Chairman of the Board in formulating the agenda for Board meetings;
- Plans and develops short and long range programs within the budgetary requirements, facility needs, and transportation requirements within ninety (90) days of initial employment and within thirty (30) days of the beginning of each subsequent school year.
- Plans and develops administrative and instructional programs based on empirical data.
- Provides leadership in the development of positive and creative personnel relationships; Provides leadership in the development of a healthy system-wide work climate through effective and efficient communication, empowerment, trust and supportive personnel relationships.
- Develops and maintains positive communication among employees and Board members.
- Reports to the Board, personnel plans and policies, including classification on recruitment, appointments, promotions, salary raises, and discipline.
 1. Notifies the Board when there is a need for reduction in force;
 2. Listens and responds expeditiously to employee's appeals;
- Provides for the equitable distribution of resources throughout PSS
 1. Has discretion to issue exemptions for students to attend classes in another attendance district;
 2. Reviews and approves all field trips;
 3. Grants exceptions to entrance age requirements;
 4. Exhausts all measure before granting expulsion of students or appeals of suspensions;
 5. Establishes policies to ensure school personnel's participation and involvement in parent-school organizations;
 6. Develops a fee schedule for the use of PSS facilities, buses, equipment or property;
 7. Reviews and approves all travel authorizations and vouchers;
 8. Reviews and approves all obligation documents;
 9. Reviews and approves all personnel service contracts;
- Presents an annual plan of staff organization and the assignment of personnel to the Board;
- Prepares and submits to the Board Standard Operating Administrative Procedures;
- Serves as a liaison on behalf of the Public School System with the Commonwealth Legislature, the Governor, various Commonwealth departments, agencies, and the community;
- Communicates and informs the Board of all significant developments;
- The Commissioner shall perform these duties as well as all other duties as may be assigned by the Board consistent with Board policies.
- Shall promote clear communications and parental involvement including school communities.

JOB RELATED DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES ASSIGNMENTS:

The statements contained herein describe the scope of the responsibility and essential function of this position, but should not be considered to be the only duties and responsibilities of employee(s). Individuals may perform other duties as assigned including work in other areas to cover absences or relief to equalize peak work periods or otherwise balance the workload. Employee(s) may be requested to supervise and/or train the employees. Employee(s) will be required to follow any other job-related duties requested by any person authorized to give instructions or assignments.

FORTY (40) HOUR WORKWEEK:

The normal work period shall be a seven (7) days work period with a maximum non-overtime of forty (40) hours.

The Public School System (PSS) operates on a 40 hour work week. Actual working hours will be determined on the basis of operational efficiency. School Principals, Supervisors or Program Managers will establish working schedules subject to the approval of the Commissioner of Education.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTION OF THE JOB:

The duties and responsibilities listed herein have excluded the functions of the position that are incidental to the performance of fundamental job duties. All duties and responsibilities listed herein are essential job functions and requirements and are subject to modification to reasonably accommodate individuals with disabilities. To perform this job successfully, the incumbent(s) will possess the skills, aptitudes, and abilities to perform each duty proficiently. Some positions may exclude individuals who pose a direct threat or significant risk to the health or safety of themselves or others. The qualification requirements listed in this document are the minimum levels of knowledge, abilities and skills required to perform this position.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

Applicant for the Commissioner of Education must have the following minimum qualifications:

1. Masters Degree in some field of education from a U.S. accredited college or university
2. At least five (5) years experience as a classroom teacher and at least five (5) years experience as a school administrator
3. Demonstrated knowledge of state and local education systems
4. Demonstrates a comprehensive knowledge of multidiverse school systems
5. Excellent written and oral communication skills in English
6. Eligible to work in the U.S. including the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
7. Excellent moral character and has never been convicted of a felony or any crime involving moral turpitude

ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATIONS:

- Good interpersonal and communication skills. Communicate effectively both orally and in writing, including giving and receiving feedback
- Awareness of and sensitivity to cultural issues and local community practices.
- Ability to work as part of a team. Strong staff collaboration is a standard at the PSS.
- Ability to perform multiple tasks.
- Demonstrate integrity and impartiality.
- Professional, interpersonal and communication skills.
- Communicate effectively both orally and in writing, including giving and receiving feedback.
- Awareness of and sensitivity to cultural issues and local community practices.

CONDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

This position is considered “EXEMPT STATUS”: It is NOT eligible for overtime pay or compensatory time and is paid on a salary basis pursuant to Regulations for PSS Employment of Non-Certified Personnel and Fair Labor Standards Act.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

All applicants must complete and submit a Board of Education/Public School System Non-Certified Employment Application Form. Interested applicants may obtain the application form at the Human Resources Office located on Capitol Hill, Building 1202. The Non-Certified Employment Application Form may also be downloaded from the website at <http://www.cnmipss.org/jva/>. Interested individuals may also call the Human Resources Office for an electronic copy of the form.

All inquiries related to this vacancy should be forwarded to: Ms. Lucretia Borja, Assistant Director of the Human Resources Office, CNMI Public School System, P.O.Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950. Phone number 670-664-3824; Fax number 670-664-3826; Email address: lucretia.borja@cnmipss.org ; brandon.nicholas@cnmipss.org

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

INTERESTED APPLICANTS MAY OBTAIN AND SUBMIT COMPLETED APPLICATION FORMS TO THE PSS HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE AT CAPITOL HILL BUILDING 1202.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS MUST BE ATTACHED TO APPLICATION FORMS: RESUME OR CURRICULUM VITAE; WRITTEN RESPONSE TO NARRATIVE QUESTIONS (INCLUDED IN THE APPLICATION PACKET OR ON THE WEBSITE); FOUR (4) RECENT LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION REGARDING YOUR PROFESSIONAL WORK AND EXPERIENCE IN STATE AND LOCAL EDUCATION SYSTEMS; OFFICIAL COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY TRANSCRIPTS

COMPLETED APPLICATIONS AND REQUIRED DOCUMENTS MAY BE SUBMITTED TO THE HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE OR MAILED TO: CNMI PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM, ATTN: HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE, CAPITOL HILL BUILDING 1202 P.O. BOX 501370 CK, SAIPAN, MP 96950, and TEL. NO. (670) 664-3824.

YOUR APPLICATION FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE PSS HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE ON OR BEFORE THE CLOSING DATE OF THE POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT.

Business

Wells Fargo CEO to apologize for betraying customers' trust

WASHINGTON (AP)—The CEO of Wells Fargo plans to apologize before a congressional panel for betraying customers' trust in a scandal over allegations that employees opened millions of unauthorized accounts, moved money into them and signed customers up for online banking in order to meet sales targets.

In prepared testimony obtained by The Associated Press, Chief Executive John Stumpf says he is "deeply sorry" the bank failed to meet its responsibility to customers and didn't act sooner to stem what he called "this unacceptable activity." He testifies Tuesday before the Senate Banking Committee.

"I accept full responsibility for all unethical sales practices in our retail banking business, and I am fully committed to doing everything possible to fix this issue, strengthen our culture, and take the necessary actions to restore our customers' trust," according to the prepared testimony.

Wells Fargo has long been known for its aggressive sales goals, but the details and the



In this May 6, 2012, file photo, a Wells Fargo sign is displayed at a branch in New York.

\$185 million fine that regulators imposed last week have singed the consumer banking giant's reputation as a well-run, tightly managed company removed from the reckless conduct on Wall Street that stoked the financial crisis. Some 5,300 Wells Fargo employees have been fired.

The wide sweep of the strong-arm sales practices within the bank, which went on for years, has drawn attention from committees in both

the Senate and House.

Lawmakers will likely press Stumpf on how much top executives knew about the misconduct that supported the high-pressure sales. Stumpf had been facing criticism after an interview last week in which he implied that retail banking employees were to blame, and his prepared remarks seem to indicate a shift in tone.

Stumpf, a 34-year veteran of the company, has been CEO since 2007 and added the

chairman title in 2010. If he was unaware of the problems, critics could seize on that as evidence that Wells Fargo is too big and unruly to be properly managed. If he did know, they'll want to know why he didn't stop it.

"This was not the work of a few rogue employees over the course of a few weeks," several Democrats on the Banking Committee wrote in a letter to Stumpf last week. "Wells Fargo had a long-standing,

systemic problem created by stringent sales quotas and incentives imposed by senior management."

In announcing the fine, regulators said Wells Fargo sales employees opened more than 2 million bank and credit card accounts that may not have been authorized by customers. Money in customers' accounts was said to have been moved to these new accounts without their permission. Debit cards were issued and activated, as well as PINs created, without telling customers. In some cases, bank employees even created fake email addresses to sign up customers for online banking services, the regulators said. The bank sales staff had a goal of getting each customer to have eight different

accounts with the bank—up from the prevailing average of six.

Under the settlement, Wells Fargo neither admitted nor denied the allegations. It later said it plans to eliminate the sales targets by Jan. 1.

Members of the Senate Committee may also press on whether Wells Fargo's board will exercise its power to take back compensation paid to senior executives responsible for the sales program. One possible executive could be Carrie Tolsted, who ran Wells Fargo's consumer banking division. She announced in July her retirement from the bank this year. Tolsted is expected to leave with as much as \$125 million in salary, stock options and other compensation.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Wal-Mart completes \$3 billion-plus purchase of Jet.com

NEW YORK (AP)—Wal-Mart said Monday it has completed its deal to buy fast-growing Jet.com for \$3 billion in cash plus \$300 million in stock, an acquisition aimed at helping the world's largest retailer attract younger and more affluent customers to drive online sales. The hefty price tag shows how heavily Wal-Mart is willing to invest as it tries to boost online sales that totaled \$13.7 billion last year—still just a fraction of the company's annual revenue. While Wal-Mart and Jet.com will operate as separate brands, Wal-Mart has said it will incorporate some of Jet.com's "smart technology" that lowers prices in real time by looking for ways to cut costs. As part of the deal, which was announced in early August, Jet.com co-founder and CEO Marc Lore will oversee both that site and Walmart.com, and will report to Wal-Mart CEO Doug McMillon. Lore will serve as executive vice president at Wal-Mart and president and CEO of Wal-Mart's e-commerce business in the U.S.

Kellogg recalls some Eggo waffles over listeria fear

NEW YORK (AP)—Kellogg Co. is recalling about 10,000 cases of its Eggo Nutri-Grain Whole Wheat Waffles in 25 states because they could be contaminated with the bacteria listeria. Listeria can cause serious and even deadly infections. It primarily affects the elderly, pregnant women, newborns and people with weak immune systems. The

Battle Creek, Michigan company said Monday it has received no reports of illnesses. Kellogg says it learned of the potential problem after routine tests. The recalled waffles are available in 10-count packs with "Used by" dates of Nov. 21, 2017 and Nov. 22, 2017. Kellogg Co., which also makes Frosted Flakes and Special K, said no other Eggo products were affected. The company says people who bought the products should throw them away and contact it for a full refund.

Lotte chair appears before prosecutors in corruption probe

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korean prosecutors questioned Lotte Group's chairman, Shin Dong-bin, on Tuesday in a corruption probe at the country's fifth-largest business group. "I am sorry for having caused concern," Shin told reporters in a live televised broadcast outside the Seoul Central District Prosecutors' Office. He said he would cooperate with the investigation. Lotte started as a chewing gum company in Japan in 1948 but now operates businesses in chemicals, food, shopping and hotels, including South Korea's largest discount and department store chains. Its brands are well recognized not only in Japan and South Korea but around Southeast Asia. The months-long investigation into allegations of slush funds, embezzlement and tax evasion in the conglomerate was halted temporarily after the group's vice chairman, a top aide to Shin, was found dead in August in a suspected suicide just hours before he was to face questioning.

Feds preview rules of the road for self-driving cars

WASHINGTON (AP)—Obama administration officials previewed long-awaited guidance Monday that attempts to bring self-driving cars to the nation's roadways safely—without creating so many roadblocks that the technology can't make it to market quickly.

Traditional automakers and tech companies have been testing self-driving prototypes on public roads for several years, with a human in the driver's seat just in case. The results suggest that what once seemed like a technology perpetually over the horizon appears to be fast approaching, especially with car companies announcing a string of invest-

ments and acquisitions in recent months.

Federal officials have been struggling with how to capitalize on the technology's promised safety benefits—the cars can react faster than people, but don't drink or get distracted—while making sure they are ready for widespread use. The new guidance represents their current thinking, which they hope will bring some order to what has been a chaotic rollout so far.

Self-driving cars have the potential to save thousands of lives lost on the nation's roads each year and to change the lives of the elderly and the disabled, President Barack Obama said in an op-ed pub-

lished Monday by the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette.

"Safer, more accessible driving. Less congested, less polluted roads. That's what harnessing technology for good can look like," Obama wrote. But he added: "We have to get it right. Americans deserve to know they'll be safe today even as we develop and deploy the technologies of tomorrow."

One self-driving technology expert said the overall tenor of the guidance signaled that the federal government truly has embraced autonomous driving. "In terms of just attitude, this is huge," said Bryant Walker Smith, a law professor at the University of

South Carolina who closely tracks the technology. He also cautioned that many details remain unclear.

Under the proposal, the federal transportation regulators, rather than states, should be in charge of regulating self-driving cars since the vehicles are essentially controlled by software, not people, administration officials said.

States have historically set the rules for licensing drivers, but when the driver becomes a computer "we intend to occupy the field here," Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx said. States, he said, should stick to registering the cars and dealing with questions of liability when they crash.

coming up with the same results each time, Nielsen said.

Seventy percent of U.S. drivers own vehicles that require regular gas, while 16 percent are required to use premium fuel. The rest, about 14 percent, must use at least mid-grade gas or have an alternative fuel such as electricity, AAA says.

People also waste money on gasoline in another key way, according to AAA. Earlier this year the association studied fuel quality at a number of gas stations to see if some were better than others.

AAA research finds people waste money on premium gas

DETROIT (AP)—There is no sense paying a premium for premium gasoline if your car is designed to run on regular, according to research by the automobile club AAA.

Some drivers occasionally like to treat their cars to higher-octane fuel in the belief it boosts performance. But premium blends can cost around 50 cents a gallon more than regular.

AAA says it's just money out the tailpipe—lots of it. In a national survey on gasoline use, AAA said 16.5 million U.S. drivers spent \$2.1 billion

they didn't need to in the past year on premium gasoline.

Many think premium means quality. But AAA researchers found that while it has more octane, it didn't increase horsepower or fuel economy, decrease emissions or clean engines any better than regular gas in cars that are designed by the manufacturer to run on 87-octane regular.

"Drivers see the 'premium' name at the pump and may assume the fuel is better for their vehicle," said John Nielsen, AAA's managing director of automotive engineering.

However, if your owner's manual specifically says to run your car on 93 octane premium or 89 octane mid-grade gas, you should do it to make it perform optimally, according to the researchers. More luxury and performance brands are using turbocharging or supercharging to get better performance out of smaller engines, and those may require premium gas, Nielsen said.

AAA researchers joined with the Automobile Club of Southern California to test V8, V6 and four-cylinder engines,

Nation

Rahami called 'friendly,' but changed after foreign travels

By ADAM GELLER
AP NATIONAL WRITER

To neighbors and customers of his family's storefront chicken takeout, Ahmad Khan Rahami was a friendly, quiet presence behind the counter who liked talking about cars and was generous with free food.

So when the 28-year-old Afghan immigrant was apprehended Monday as the lead person of interest in bombings in New York and New Jersey, those who knew him expressed shock, questioning whether his turn to religiosity in recent years might have hinted at views otherwise kept hidden.

Rahami's father and brothers had long nursed tensions with neighbors and officials in Elizabeth, New Jersey, over the restaurant's late hours, a conflict the family claimed in a lawsuit was the result of discrimination against them as Muslims.

But Ahmad Rahami's demeanor—increasingly devout but more likely to talk



Ahmad Khan Rahami is taken into custody after a shootout with police Monday, Sept. 19, 2016, in Linden, N.J.

about worldly pursuits than his faith—never hinted at anything but goodwill, customers said.

"He'd always talk about his cars. He loved his Civics, he loved going fast," said Ryan McCann, a frequent cus-

tomers at First American Fried Chicken, the restaurant that Rahami's father, Mohammed Rahami, has run since 2002. "He was so friendly he'd give us free chicken here and there, just because we shopped there so much."

Ahmad Rahami, a natural-

ized U.S. citizen, was taken into custody after a shootout with police in Linden, a nearby town.

A law enforcement official says fingerprints and surveillance video helped investigators identify him as the man suspected of setting off bombs

U.S. weekend terrorist attacks



in the New York area over the weekend. The official says he's seen in surveillance footage "clear as day" at the scene of the Saturday night bombing in Manhattan.

The official says investigators recovered his fingerprints from the scene.

Rahami wasn't on any terror or no-fly watch lists, a law enforcement official said, but he'd been interviewed by officials for immigration purposes.

Another law enforcement official says investigators

pulled over a car carrying three men and two women "associated" with Rahami when it appeared headed toward an airport Sunday.

The officials spoke to The Associated Press on the condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to speak publicly about the case.

As FBI agents removed bags of evidence from the restaurant Monday, officials and residents recalled Rahami and his family, who shared an apartment over the business.

Islamic State claiming attacks reflects influence obsession

CHICAGO (AP)—Islamic State militants rarely miss a chance, however tenuous the link, to claim at least partial credit for apparent terrorist attacks on U.S. soil, from June's deadly mass shooting at a gay nightclub in Orlando, Florida, to the stabbing of 10 people in a Minnesota shopping mall Saturday.

They're eager to precisely because they apparently haven't carried out carefully planned attacks here and because, in terrorism circles, your influence is often ranked by numbers of attacks, terrorism experts say.

"If they can't claim attacks, they can't get recruits and can't raise money," according to Dan Byman, a senior fellow in the Center for Middle East Policy at the Brookings Institution in Washington, D.C.

Some militant groups, including al-Qaida, are more reluctant about associating themselves with attackers unless it is clear they adhere to their core beliefs, Byman said. But Islamic State appears to be less discriminating, requiring little information about attackers, said Karen Greenberg, the director of the Fordham Law School's Center on National Security in New York.

"If they find out the person is Muslim—that alone might be enough for them to claim credit," she said.

Other groups may also pause to gauge whether an attack crossed certain lines of brutality, something that Byman said isn't an issue for IS, whose calling card has been extreme violence.

An Islamic State-run news agency claimed on Sunday that the attack at the Crossroads Center mall in St. Cloud, Minnesota, was a "soldier of the Islamic State: who had heeded calls for attacks in nations in the U.S.-led anti-IS coalition. But authorities say there's no sign yet that the attacker, identified by his father as Somali immigrant Dahir Adan, was radicalized or communicated with any terrorist group.

The speed with which IS weighed in may also say something about a competition for recruits between the Middle East-based IS and the east Africa-based militant group al-Shabab, which has recruited Somali-Americans from Minnesota with some success in recent years, but has seen allegiances switching increasingly from al-Shabab to Islamic State, Greenberg said.

No militant group has claimed credit for the weekend bombings in New York and New Jersey. A naturalized U.S. citizen from Afghanistan who lived with his Muslim family was captured Monday after being wounded in a gun battle with police.

Victim: Mall attacker emotionless; leaders urge 'rise above'

ST. CLOUD, Minn. (AP)—One of the victims wounded in a stabbing at a central Minnesota mall says the man who carried out the attack showed no emotion and his eyes looked blank.

Ryan Schliep, one of 10 people who suffered wounds that were not life-threatening before the attacker was fatally shot, told WCCO-TV that the man "just walked right at me" before striking quickly and penetrating the skin of his scalp.

"He looked just blank in the eyes like he wasn't even there," Schliep said shortly before being released from a St. Cloud hospital.

Authorities are treating Saturday's stabbings at Crossroads Center Mall as a possible act of terrorism, in part because an Islamic State-run news agency claimed that the attacker was a "soldier of the Islamic State" who had heeded the group's calls for attacks in countries that are part of a U.S.-led anti-IS coalition.

But it wasn't immediately known whether the extremist group had planned the attack or knew about it beforehand. St. Cloud Police Chief Blair Anderson said Monday the attack appeared to be the work of a single individual and there was no sign that the attacker, identified as

20-year-old Dahir Adan, was radicalized or communicated with any terrorist group.

President Barack Obama said the stabbings had no apparent connection to weekend bombings in New York and New Jersey.

Because Adan was Somali, leaders of the state's large Somali community acknowledged the prospect of a "long winter" for their people after the stabbings, but warned not to quickly accept the terrorism connection.

"We cannot give ISIS and other terrorist organizations more air time and propaganda without real facts," said Jaylani Hussein, executive

director of the Council on American-Islamic Relations' Minnesota chapter.

Little is known about Adan, who was identified Sunday by his father, Ahmed Adan, and then by St. Cloud police Monday night. He had only a traffic ticket on his record, was apparently out of work after his job as a part-time security guard ended and hadn't enrolled in college since the spring semester. Adan was wearing a security guard's uniform during the attack.

A spokesman for the family, Abdi Wahid Osman, read from a statement expressing condolences for the injured and anyone else who was impacted.

Clinton says Trump gives 'aid, comfort' to IS recruiters

ESTERO, Fla. (AP)—Hillary Clinton accused Donald Trump of giving "aid and comfort" to Islamic terrorists Monday, declaring his anti-Muslim rhetoric helps the Islamic State group and other militants such as ISIS recruit new fighters.

But Trump hit back, saying his Democratic rival and the Obama administration hadn't done enough to quell the group's rise.

"Her attacks on me are all meant to deflect from her record of unleashing this monster of evil on us and on the world," said Trump at a

packed Florida rally, referring to Clinton's tenure as secretary of state.

He also insisted the U.S. should "use whatever lawful methods are available" to get information from the Afghan immigrant arrested in this weekend's bombings.

As several Trump supporters shouted "Hang him!" the Republican presidential candidate bemoaned the fact that Ahmad Khan Rahami, a 28-year-old U.S. citizen originally from Afghanistan, would receive quality medical care and legal representation.

"We must deliver a just

and very harsh punishment to these people," he said. "These are enemies, these are combatants and we have to be tough, we have to be strong."

Both candidates moved swiftly to capitalize on investigations into a weekend of violent attacks—bombings in New York and New Jersey and stabbings at a Minnesota mall—casting themselves as most qualified to combat terrorism at home and abroad.

Clinton touted her national security credentials at a hastily arranged news conference outside her campaign plane,

accusing Trump of using the incidents to make "some kind of demagogic point."

"I'm the only candidate in this race who's been part of the hard decisions to take terrorists off the battlefield," Clinton, a former secretary of state, told reporters. "I know how to do this."

The possibility of a home-grown terrorist plot cast a new shadow over the presidential race, diverting both candidates' attention from the daily controversies of the campaign and giving them a high-profile opportunity to make their case to undecided voters.

Asia

N. Korea says it successfully ground tests new rocket engine

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North Korean leader Kim Jong Un has overseen a ground test of a new rocket engine and ordered a satellite launch preparation, state media said Tuesday, an indication the country might soon con-

duct a prohibited long-range rocket launch.

The United Nations and others view the North's space launch development project as a cover for tests of missile technology, as ballistic missiles and rockets in satellite launches share similar bodies, engines and other technology. North Korea is also openly working on developing nuclear-armed missiles capable of striking the U.S. mainland.

Kim directed the ground test of a high-powered engine of a carrier rocket for a geostationary satellite at the So-

hae Space Center in the country's northwest, according to the official Korean Central News Agency.

Kim was quoted as ordering officials and scientists to complete preparations for a satellite launch as soon as possible, amid "the enemies' harsh sanctions and moves to stifle" the North.

Jeon Ha-kyu, a spokesman at South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff, said South Korea believes the test was for a new engine for a long-range missile. South Korean media speculated the North could

conduct a long-range rocket launch around Oct. 10, which is the 71st founding anniversary for the North's ruling Workers' Party.

Earlier this month, North Korea conducted its fifth nuclear test, prompting South Korean and U.S. officials to vow to apply more sanctions and pressure on the North. The test explosion, the most powerful to date, was conducted on the 68th anniversary of the founding of North Korea's government.

The North was already slapped with the toughest

U.N. sanctions in two decades following its fourth nuclear test in January.

Since late 2012, the North put two satellites into orbit with long-range rockets, each time inviting international sanctions and worldwide condemnation.

North Korea has said it needs nuclear weapons and missiles to cope with U.S. military threats. About 28,500 U.S. troops are stationed in South Korea, a legacy of the 1950-53 Korean War which ended with an armistice, not a peace treaty.

North Korea's 5th test sparks outrage

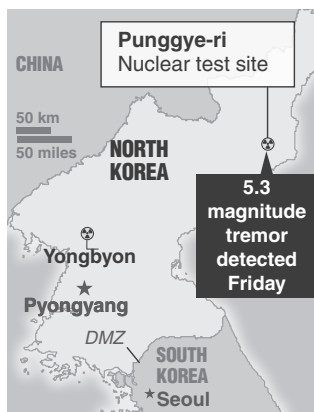
North Korea said it conducted a "higher level" nuclear test on Friday that will allow it to build an array of stronger, smaller and lighter nuclear weapons

Previous test magnitudes:



The following are North Korea's key missile and atomic tests:

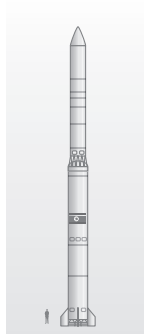
- Aug. 31, 1998:** North Korea launches an intermediate-range **Taepodong-1** missile, but it fails to put a satellite into orbit.
- July 4, 2006:** North Korea test-fires the more advanced **Taepodong-2** missile, but the test fails.
- Oct. 9, 2006:** North Korea carries out its first atomic test.
- Oct. 14, 2006:** The U.N. Security Council unanimously imposes commercial sanctions and bans North Korea from importing ballistic missile technology in response to its nuclear test.
- April 5, 2009:** North Korea launches a Unha-2 rocket and says it placed a satellite into orbit, but outside experts said no satellite is detected.
- May 25, 2009:** North Korea conducts its second atomic test.
- June 12, 2009:** The U.N. Security Council unanimously adopts stricter sanctions, including the interception of North Korean ships.
- April 13, 2012:** North Korea launches a long-range **Unha-3** rocket, which explodes minutes after takeoff.
- Dec. 12, 2012:** North Korea says a launch of another **Unha-3** rocket was successful and it placed a satellite into orbit.
- Jan. 22, 2013:** The U.N. Security Council condemns the latest launch and extends asset freezes and travel bans to several North Korean organizations and individuals.
- Feb. 12, 2013:** North Korea appears to carry out its third atomic test, according to seismic data. Pyongyang claims it used a miniaturized nuclear device, but no radiation was detected.
- Nov. 28, 2013:** Increased activity at the North's Yongbyon facility prompts international observers to suspect the regime is restarting production of fissile material.
- March 26, 2014:** North Korea launches two ballistic missiles that fly around 400 miles and reach Mach 7 before falling into the sea east of the peninsula.
- Oct. 8, 2014:** North Korea's nuclear test site at Punggye-ri ceases activity, intelligence agencies say, prompting speculation of an imminent fourth nuclear test explosion but none was reported.
- Jan. 6, 2016:** North Korea claims it has successfully tested a hydrogen bomb, its fourth test of an atomic device.
- Sept. 9, 2016:** North Korea carried out its fifth and reportedly biggest nuclear test



Taepodong-1
2 stages; 85 ft. tall
flew once, in 1998, unsuccessfully



Taepodong-2
2 or 3 stages
115 ft. tall



Unha-3
3 stages
105 ft. tall (32 m)
Estimate range to be 10,000 km (6,200 mi.)



Graphic: Staff, Tribune News Service

PH senators oust colleague who led killing inquiry

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A Philippine senator who led an investigation into the president's bloody anti-drug campaign was ousted Monday from the justice committee in a vote that human rights advocates said could derail accountability in the crackdown.

President Rodrigo Duterte's allies led the vote that removed Sen. Leila de Lima from the Committee on Justice and Human Rights, which has spearheaded an inquiry into the widespread killings of drug suspects that have alarmed President Barack Obama, U.N. officials and human

rights watchdogs.

More than 3,000 drug suspects have died in the crackdown since Duterte assumed the presidency on June 30. More than 600,000 others have surrendered

to authorities for fear they also would be killed.

De Lima's ouster "is a blatant and craven move to derail accountability for the appalling death toll from President Rodrigo Duterte's abusive 'war on drugs,'" U.S.-based Human Rights Watch said. "The Senate is showing great



de Lima

er interest in covering up allegations of state-sanctioned murder than in exposing them."

The group called on senators opposed to Duterte's tough tactics to seek de Lima's reinstatement.

Senators allied with Duterte, however, said the investigation into possible police abuses in the killings would continue under Sen. Richard Gordon, who was designated to replace de Lima.

De Lima has had a running feud with Duterte. As the former head of the government's

human rights commission, she investigated Duterte's alleged involvement in extrajudicial killings of criminals when he was mayor of southern Davao city, where he built a name for his tough crime-busting style.

"I know that the president is behind this," de Lima told reporters.

Duterte has accused de Lima of involvement in illegal drugs, alleging that her former driver took money from detained drug lords. She has denied the allegations, but the president's allies in the House of Representatives are to launch an inquiry Tuesday.

Samsung says it has found no battery problem in China

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—Samsung Electronics said Monday that its investigation into the first report of a Galaxy Note 7 fire in China found no battery problem, reducing concerns that its smartphone crisis had expanded to the world's largest mobile phone market.

The South Korean tech giant said it was not able to investigate a second reported fire because it could not obtain that phone.

The two accounts of Galaxy Note 7 fires appeared on Chi-

nese social media and were widely reported by Chinese and South Korean media, raising alarms because the South Korean tech giant earlier said no Note 7 recall was necessary in China because the phones sold there did not have the battery manufacturing error that caused fires in dozens of phones sold in other countries.

Samsung announced the global recall of 2.5 million of its flagship smartphones just two weeks after they were launched.

It is struggling to restore consumer trust after 92 reports of Note 7 batteries that overheated or caught fire in the United States, which prompted an official government recall there last week. The company began shipping new Note 7 phones to replace the defective ones this week in South Korea.

The Chinese battery supplier for Note 7 phones sold in China said Monday the fires there appeared to be different from those in other countries.

"We believe the heat problem comes from outside the battery. A very large likelihood exists that other factors gave rise to the heat problem," Amperex Technology Ltd. said. It gave no indication of what may have caused the problems.

Samsung said its investigation suggested external heat had damaged the phone. South Korea's Yonhap News Agency and other South Korean media said it may have been an effort by consumers to tarnish Samsung.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Cambodian leader rejects opposition's threat of protests

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP)—Cambodia's leader responded angrily Monday to the opposition's threat to hold nationwide demonstrations, saying such protests could sink any chances of resolving political differences through negotiations. Prime Minister Hun Sen said in a speech to graduating students that the opposition Cambodia National Rescue Party should speak politely and make a positive gesture if they want to ease tensions. "To be clear about

that, don't threaten to stage a demonstration for the reason of seeking to resume negotiations. That is no way," Hun Sen said. "I would be a dog if I were to negotiate (with you)." He said the opposition should be speaking out in parliament, whose sessions it has stopped attending in protest at the ruling Cambodian People's Party majority voting to lift the parliamentary immunity of its leaders, a move the opposition considers illegal. The opposition complains of being harassed by politically influenced courts, after legal cases have forced party leader Sam

Rainsy to stay in exile to avoid jail and his deputy Kem Sokha to take refuge behind supporters at party headquarters, where state security forces have gathered in armed shows of strength.

Thai court finds British activist guilty of defamation

BANGKOK (AP)—A Thai court has found a British labor activist guilty of defaming a fruit canning company, and given him a suspended prison sentence. Bangkok South Criminal Court found Andy Hall guilty Tuesday of

criminal defamation against Natural Fruit Company Ltd. in connection with a report he researched for the Finnish consumer agency Finnwatch that alleged labor abuses at the company's facilities. He was also found guilty of violating the Computer Crimes Act because the information was posted on the Internet. e was given a suspended sentence of three years with a probationary period of two years, and a fine of 150,000 baht (\$4,300). He is expected to appeal the ruling. Two civil suits by the company against him are pending.

World

World leaders at UN must tackle Syria, extremism, refugees

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—World leaders gather at the United Nations for their annual meeting Tuesday with an array of global crises that desperately need solutions, topped by the Syrian conflict, escalating attacks around the world by Islamic extremists, and millions of people fleeing fighting and poverty.

Whether the 135 heads of state and government and more than 50 ministers are able to make any progress before the high-level meeting of the General Assembly ends on Sept. 26 remains to be seen. While hopes are high, expectations are low.

The leaders are meeting against a backdrop of rising ethnic and religious tension, fighting elsewhere in the Middle East and Africa, a warming planet, and unfulfilled goals to give every child in the world a primary school education and to achieve equality for women.

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—Billionaire George Soros is pledging to invest up to \$500 million in start-ups, established companies, “social impact initiatives,”

and businesses started by refugees and migrants.

Soros, who chairs the Open Society Institute, made the announcement Tuesday, following the first-ever U.N. summit on migrants and refugees and ahead of a meeting chaired by President Barack Obama to spur pledges to help the world’s 65.3 million displaced people.

“Our goal is to harness the private sector for public good,” Soros said. “These investments are intended to be successful. But our primary focus is to create products and services that truly benefit migrants and host communities.”

He expressed hope his commitment “will inspire other investors to pursue the same mission.”

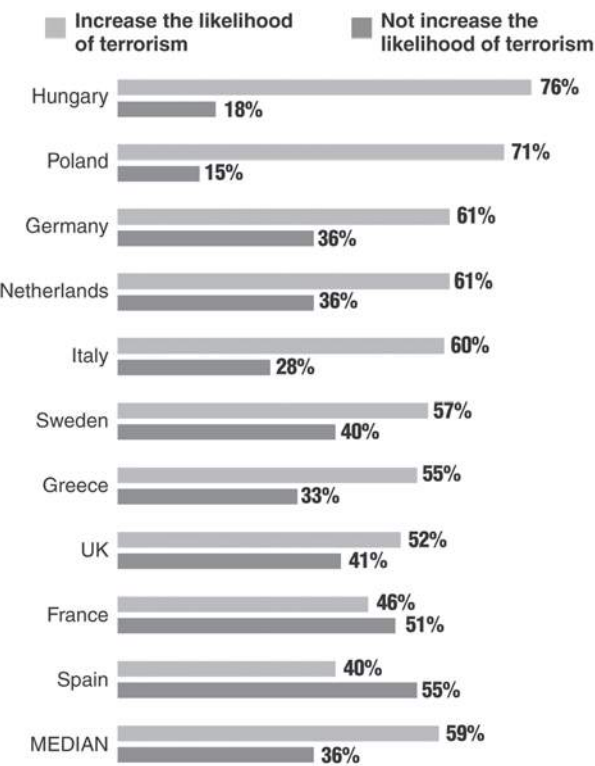
U.N. refugee chief Filippo Grandi said the investments “will help refugees become self-reliant.”

The global chaos facing the leaders was made even starker in the past two days with the attacks in New York City and the deadly attack on a U.N. humanitarian convoy in Syria

Refugees and terrorism

Many Europeans are concerned refugees will increase domestic terrorism.

Refugees will ___ in our country



and the near collapse of a cease-fire in the war-ravaged country that has been repeat-

edly broken.

The latest developments placed added importance on a

meeting early Tuesday morning of the International Syria Support Group, comprised of about 20 countries supporting opposing sides in the conflict. It will be led by U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry and Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, who hammered out the cease-fire agreement.

The spotlight is also certain to shine on three leaders scheduled to speak at the assembly’s opening session Tuesday morning.

U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon who steps down on Dec. 31, and U.S. President Barack Obama who will leave office in January, will be addressing the 193-member world body for the last time. And British Prime Minister Theresa May will be making her debut on the world stage less than three months after the country voted to leave the European Union.

Many leaders came a day early to attend Monday’s first-

ever U.N. summit on refugees and migrants, which approved a declaration aimed at providing a more coordinated and humane response to the world’s 65.3 million displaced people.

It calls for separate Global Compacts for refugees and migrants to be adopted within two years. But human rights groups complained that it was watered down, eliminating Ban’s proposal to resettle 10 percent of the world’s refugees annually.

Obama has called a follow-up summit Tuesday afternoon to spur concrete pledges.

According to a U.S. official, speaking on condition of anonymity ahead of the summit, at least 45 countries are expected to make pledges that will meet or exceed U.S. goals of increasing humanitarian aid by \$3 billion, doubling resettlement and lawful admission spots, and increasing access to education for 1 million youngsters and access to employment by 1 million.

France wants international Mideast conference this year

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—France said Monday it wants to organize an international conference before the end of the year to present Israelis and Palestinians with a package of incentives if they reach a peace agreement.

Foreign Minister Jean-Marc Ayrault said at a briefing on the sidelines of the U.N. General Assembly’s annual ministerial meeting that “this week must be a moment of political mobilization that we can reach that goal.”

Ayrault’s push for an international conference in France follows an announcement by Russia’s Foreign Ministry on Sept. 8 that Israeli and Palestinian leaders have agreed “in principle” to meet in Moscow for talks.

But the wide gaps between Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas raise doubts about the prospect for any meeting - and if there is one whether they would make any progress.

Abbas demands that Israel halt all settlement construction in east Jerusalem and the West Bank, and release about two dozen Palestinian prisoners before any meeting. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu rejects the preconditions.

Ayrault said several countries, including Egypt, Russia and the United States, are trying to restart talks

between Israel and the Palestinians. He said he told them that “all efforts are in fact complementary of the French initiative.”

A statement from Secretary of State John Kerry’s office said Kerry met Abbas in New York to discuss “our shared goal of a two state solution.”

It said Kerry voiced “concern over trends on the ground, including the recent surge in violence and settlement activity.”

France hosted an international meeting in Paris in June attended by more than two dozen Western and Arab countries to try to come up with a new strategy for Mideast peace and revive Israeli-Palestinian negotiations, which have been all but dead for over two years. The Israeli and Palestinian leaders were not invited.

The participants welcomed the “prospect” of a conference with both parties later this year.

Ayrault hosted a closed meeting Monday for officials from the countries that attended the June conference.

Russia has clamored unsuccessfully for years to host a meeting of the two leaders but Russia’s Foreign Ministry gave no date or agenda for the future get-together.

The United States has maintained a stranglehold over all Mideast peace processes since the Oslo Accords in the 1990s.

Syria cease-fire falters amid deadly strikes on aid convoy

BEIRUT (AP)—Syria’s cease-fire has faltered further after an aid convoy was hit by airstrikes, with activists saying at least 12 people were killed in the attack, mostly truck drivers and Red Crescent workers.

The strikes late on Monday came just hours after the Syrian military declared the week-long U.S.-Russian brokered cease-fire had failed. The United States said it was prepared to extend the truce deal and Russia—after blaming rebels for the violations—suggested it could still be salvaged.

It was not clear who was

behind the attack, which sent a red fireball into the sky in the dead of night over a rural area in Aleppo province. Both Syrian and Russian aircraft operate over Syria, as well as the U.S.-led coalition that is targeting the Islamic State group.

U.N. officials said the U.N. and Red Crescent convoy was delivering assistance for 78,000 people in the town of Uram al-Kubra, west of the northern city of Aleppo.

Initial estimates indicate that about 18 of the 31 trucks in the convoy were hit, as well as the Red Crescent warehouse in the area.

The Britain-based Syr-

ian Observatory for Human Rights, an activist group that tracks the civil war, said at least 12 were killed in the attack, mostly truck drivers and Red Crescent workers. The Syrian Civil Defense, the volunteer first responder group also known as the White Helmets, confirmed that casualty figure.

Jan Egeland, humanitarian aid coordinator in the office of the U.N. envoy for Syria, told The Associated Press in a text message that the convoy was “bombarded.”

Egeland added, “It is outrageous that it was hit while offloading at warehouses.”

U. N. Humanitarian Chief

Stephen O’Brien called on “all parties to the conflict, once again, to take all necessary measures to protect humanitarian actors, civilians, and civilian infrastructure as required by international humanitarian law.”

The convoy, part of a routine interagency dispatch operated by the Syrian Red Crescent, was hit in rural western Aleppo province. The White Helmets first responder group posted images of a number of vehicles on fire and a video of the attack showed huge balls of fire in a pitch black area, as ambulances arrive on the scene.

In Zimbabwe, comedy thrives as country slowly falls apart

By FARAI MUTSAKA
ASSOCIATED PRESS

HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP)—Zimbabwe’s economy is falling apart, and police are cracking down on growing anti-government protests. But the country’s comedy scene is booming. No subject seems taboo.

Even 92-year-old President Robert Mugabe, widely accused of muzzling free speech, is a target.

Insulting the president can bring a one-year jail term in this southern African coun-

try. Nonetheless, the comedians carry on, becoming bolder as fears of speaking out begin to erode.

In one skit at a show on Thursday called State of the Nation, an actor playing the first lady, 51-year-old Grace Mugabe, lays her stake to the presidency on hearing the news of the “death” of her husband, the world’s oldest head of state.

“I deserve it. Were any of you cleaning his nappy and wiping the spit off his chin?” she says. She also talks up her own chances of winning

elections.

“We have always won, even when I was pushing the old man in a wheelbarrow,” she says, a reference to the real first lady’s comment at a political rally last year: “I will push President Mugabe in the wheelbarrow to bring him to work.”

Near the end, a fake Mugabe emerges, struggling to walk while scoffing at rumors of his demise. Some in the audience laugh. Others gasp. The real president has joked at the persistent rumors, telling reporters earlier this month: “It

is true that I was dead. And I resurrected. As I always do.”

The comedy show played to a packed audience in the capital, Harare. State of the Nation will be a fortnightly show streaming live on internet, said organizer Davis Guzha, director of Rooftop Promotions.

“Comedy allows us to laugh but also to think about our problems at the same time,” said Sam Monro, or Comrade Fatso, a stand-up comedian who runs Zambezi News, a satirical social media show on current affairs.

Focus

By ERIC TALMADGE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

TOKYO (AP)—North Korea is an economic basket case that incomprehensively pours resources into nuclear weapons and cares only about enriching a tiny circle of elites when it can't even feed its own people. It's an "impossible state," as one former U.S. diplomat put it, bound to collapse under the weight of its own failed policies, if just given a push.

Common sense, right?

We've all heard those descriptions thrown around in the media, from the White House, from the U.N. Security Council. But with North Korea facing yet more sanctions and punitive measures over its latest nuclear test, now might be a good time to re-examine those assumptions.

They aren't as solid as they might seem.

KIM JONG UN IS CRAZY, ERRATIC, INCOMPETENT

Ridicule is a comforting way of letting off steam. But regardless of how morally reprehensible, criminal or even evil we may perceive an adversary to be, underestimation is dangerous.

There is little evidence Kim is crazy, erratic or incompetent.

He assumed power after the death of his father, Kim Jong Il, with very little preparation and probably while still in his late 20s. Yet there are no clear indications he—or a circle of power-holding cadres acting in his name—is not solidly in power.

In a totalitarian dictatorship, balancing rival interest groups and keeping popular unrest at bay in itself is no small feat. It is to be expected that Kim would face potential challenges, but he appears to be navigating the balance of power quite deftly—and ruthlessly, if necessary.

The biggest known challenge to his power came early, and he dealt with it by executing his powerful uncle and former mentor, and purging his followers. That, apparently, was that.

Policy wise, Kim's regime has been consistent. His stated goals have been to develop the country's nuclear weapons arsenal while improving its standard of living.

GOING NUCLEAR IS IRRATIONAL

In terms of lost trade opportunities, sanctions and diplomatic isolation, North Korea's pursuit of a viable nuclear arsenal is a costly endeavor. It also uses resources that could be put toward badly needed



AP
In this May 9, 2016 file photo, North Korean leader Kim Jong Un listens during the party congress in Pyongyang, North Korea.

AP ANALYSIS: Questioning the stereotypes about North Korea

infrastructure improvements.

The military calculus is different, however.

North Korea is surrounded by nuclear powers. Two of them—Russia and China—are, to some degree, friendly. But the trump card is held by the U.S., and by extension Japan and South Korea, which are under the U.S. nuclear umbrella. Washington can bomb North Korea into oblivion at will—as it nearly did with conventional weapons during the 1950-53 Korean War.

North Korea has long been able to keep South Korea at bay with its considerable artillery power near the Demilitarized Zone. But hitting the U.S. mainland has always been out of its reach. A viable nuclear deterrent, as North Korea calls it, would change that. Going to the table as a nuclear power would radically boost the North's bargaining position should serious talks ever resume.

This may seem like paranoia to some.

The U.S. has no intention of invading North Korea, and has said so for decades.

But every year, U.S. troops team up with South Korean counterparts to conduct war games that, while always termed defensive in nature, have recently begun including training for precision strikes, or more colorfully, "decapi-



AP
In this July 27, 2013, file photo, North Korean soldiers turn and look towards their leader Kim Jong Un from a military parade vehicle as they carry packs marked with the nuclear symbol during a ceremony marking the 60th anniversary of the Korean War armistice in Pyongyang, North Korea.

tation" strikes on Kim Jong Un, along with scenarios for invading or destroying the capital.

To North Korea, that is a very real threat.

Threats, real or perceived, are also useful political tools. Few things rally a nation behind its leaders better than the fear of an attack—especially if the threat happens to be com-

ing from the world's strongest military.

NORTH KOREA'S ECONOMY IS A BASKET CASE

It faces severe international sanctions, is extremely wary of even the most basic forms of market capitalism and has a financial system that is, at best, skeletal. Still, North Ko-

rea's economy is growing, and has been for years.

Economists, while working with admittedly flawed and incomplete data, largely agree things appear to have been getting marginally better. They estimate annual GNP growth at 1 to 3 percent.

Sanctions have certainly hurt. But they have not been crippling.

Despite region-wide concern over a nuclear North Korea, trade with Russia and China continues and is unlikely to end, considering the reservations both Beijing and Moscow harbor toward toeing any policy line that they feel is dictated by Washington.

North Korea remains among the world's least developed economies. Stunting due to malnutrition, abject poverty and the lack of economic options surely persist. But no more so than in many other poor nations.

The U.N.'s World Food Program, which has an office in Pyongyang and conducts regular assessments, says North Korea's food situation is precarious. Most North Koreans can't count on a balanced, nutritious diet.

But are North Koreans starving en masse? Are they on the WFP's list of nations most suffering from food emergencies?

No.

ITS REGIME CAN'T SURVIVE

Repressive, totalitarian dictatorships do have a tendency to implode. When they do, it's usually a violent, bloody mess. And from the outside, it can seem to happen with amazing suddenness.

That scenario could play out in North Korea. But it has defied the odds for nearly 70 years, under three different Kims.

It survived the Korea War—which, thanks to massive Chinese help, ended in what is essentially a stalemate. It survived the fall of the Soviet Union and its Communist allies, major benefactors for decades.

Barring invasion, internal revolt or popular uprising, the biggest threat the regime faces could be a growing domestic consumer economy that arose as a coping mechanism during the famine years that followed the Soviet collapse and the capitalism-friendly transformation of China's economy.

When North Korea stopped being able to provide necessities its people had come to rely on, they learned to fend for themselves. That helped North Korea weather the crisis, but also created a cash-based, entrepreneurial economy that continues to grow—and not necessarily in a way the regime can control.

But, then again, maybe it can.

Good Housekeeping

Diggin' In: Pawpaw plant is host to zebra swallowtails

By KATHY VAN MULLEKOM
DAILY PRESS (NEWPORT NEWS, VA.)

My new yard in Virginia Beach, Va., is extra special—it features a large, large pawpaw tree.

For years, I planned to plant one but just never got around to it. The full-grown, fruit-heavy pawpaw on the edge of the woods that borders our yard is an extra bonus.

Helen Hamilton's profile of the native plant sent me scurrying to confirm what I had suspected—this small tree, or large shrub, features unusual three-season beauty.

"Flowers come first in this plant that blooms from March through May," says Hamilton, past president of the John Clayton Chapter, Virginia Native Plant Society, and retired biology teacher living in Williamsburg, Va. (Learn more about the native plant society at www.vnps.org.)

"Hanging upside-down on the twigs sometimes during leaf emergences, these unusual blossoms are maroon and bell-like."

Pawpaw, or *Asimina triloba*, is ignored by bees because

there are both male and female parts on each flower, so no cross pollination is needed.

Next comes the plant's unusual fruit, which is almost four inches long, green at first, then yellow-brown when ripe, with a sweet, creamy pulp, according to Hamilton.

"Oblong and stubby, these fruits look a little like bananas and are delicious when eaten raw or made into ice cream or pies," she says.

Pawpaw is native to every county in Virginia, and throughout the eastern United States, she adds. It grows in moist soils in forests, often as a smaller understory tree. The native plant can be part of a rain garden, or placed in a shrub border at the edge of woods with average water. Easy to grow, Pawpaw prefers acidic, fertile soils, well-drained with average water. Pawpaw has a long taproot and reproduces by root suckers.

"Seedlings of pawpaw are often prolific in woods where deer have browsed on other plants," Hamilton says.

"The large, lance-shaped leaves produce a foul odor

when crushed and so do the twigs when they are damaged, which discourages deer. In fall, zebra swallowtails are seen hovering over the leaves, laying their eggs. Pawpaw is the only host plant for this black-and-white-striped butterfly.

Pawpaw fruits were prized by Native Americans and early settlers who made cordage and rope from the tree's fiber, continues Hamilton. The fruits

can cause allergic reactions, or act as a laxative. The powdered seeds have been used to treat lice in children, and researchers have found that both the leaves and seeds have chemicals that kill insects.

ZEBRA SWALLOWTAIL

You will know a zebra swallowtail as soon as you spot it, because nothing else looks like this big butterfly with triangular wings with vertical

black and white stripes, and long, sword-like tails, according to Hamilton.

"The hindwings have two deep blue spots at the base and a red spot closer to the body," she says.

"When the wings close, a bright red stripe is visible in the middle of the hindwing. Zebras that emerge in the spring are smaller with shorter tails than those that are mature in the fall. Males and females

appear identical, the only definitive difference being the egg-laying activity of the female and its smaller size."

Zebras, *Eurytides marcellus*, are difficult to photograph as their wings vibrate constantly while feeding on the nectar of flowers. Adrienne Frank, coordinator of the Butterfly Circles in the Williamsburg area, says they really like short tubular flowers like lantana.

GOOD HOUSEKEEPING ONE

Spinach Salad with Bacon and Egg

Perfect for brunch, lunch and dinner, this spinach salad incorporates the saltiness of bacon and sweetness of sauteed onions to create a balanced meal.

8 slices thick-cut smoked bacon

1 package button mushrooms

1 medium red onion

4 large eggs

2 1/2 tablespoons red wine vinegar

1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil

1 1/2 teaspoons honey Dijon mustard

1/2 teaspoon Kosher salt

12 cups baby spinach

12 ounces mixed cherry tomatoes

1. In a large skillet, cook bacon over medium heat until crisp. Remove from pan with a slotted spoon; drain on a paper towel. Reserve 3 tablespoons of bacon drippings; discard remainder. Break up bacon into bite-size pieces when bacon is cool enough to handle.

2. Heat 1 1/2 tablespoons of bacon drippings in the same skillet over medium-high heat. Add mushrooms and cook 4 to 6 minutes, stirring frequently, until lightly browned. Add onion; cook 1 to 2 minutes, stirring frequently. Transfer mix-

ture to a large mixing bowl.

3. Make poached eggs: Fill a large saucepan with 3 inches of water. Add 1 tablespoon white vinegar (this helps whites coagulate). Bring to a gentle simmer. Crack each egg into a small cup, then slide eggs, one at a time, into water. Cook 5 to 7 minutes, adjusting heat accordingly to keep at a gentle simmer, until whites are set and yolks are slightly runny. Poach longer if you like firmer yolks.

4. Remove eggs with a slotted spoon. Transfer eggs to a paper towel.

5. In same skillet over medium heat, whisk red wine vinegar, remaining 1 1/2 tablespoons bacon drippings, olive oil, mustard and salt until well-blended and warmed-through. Add spinach to mushroom mixture in bowl and pour warm dressing over; toss to coat. Add tomatoes and reserved bacon pieces.

6. Divide salad into 4 servings. Top each with a poached egg; season with salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste.

For thousands of triple-tested recipes, visit our website at www.goodhousekeeping.com/recipes/.

In Celebration of Her New Life

†*Emilia Pangelinan Palacios*

Lovingly known as "Emilian Talu"

Born on August 16, 1934 and called to
Eternal Rest on September 17, 2016 at the age of 82.

In her new life, she now joins her

Husband: †Alfonso Arriola Palacios, †Ricardo Salas Sablan

Parents: †Maria Reyes and †Jose Cabrera Pangelinan

Son: †David P. Sablan

Brother: †Francisco R. Pangelinan

Parents In-law: †Lucia San Miguel Arriola and †Jose Muna Palacios

Sons In-law: †Dae Young (Daniel) Park, †Thomas Fujihira Ada, and †Joaquin Guillermo Adriano,

Brothers & Sisters In-law: †Jose Concepcion, †Juan Mafnas, †Maxima Dlc. Pangelinan, †Jose A. Palacios, †Miguel A. & †Pilar M. Palacios, †Maria T. Palacios

Her memories will forever live in the hearts of her

Children, Grandchildren, Great-Grandchildren and Great-Great Grandchild

Jose P. & Vicenta Muna Sablan and Family, Antonio P. Sablan & Patricia Concepcion and Family, Consuelo P. & Gregorio Ch. Baza and Family, Marian Palacios & Alvin Ogo and Family, Barbara P. Ada and Family, Alexander P. Sablan & Cecilia Repeki and Family, Donald P. Palacios & Elizabeth Tebuteb and Family, Regina Pangelinan, Albert P. & Tricia Babauta Palacios and Family, Summer P. & Kevin Babauta and Family

Sister and Brother

Victoria P. Concepcion and Family, Hilarion R. Pangelinan and Family

Sisters and Brothers In-law

Lolita Palacios and Family, Dolores P. Deleon Guerrero and Family, Ana P. & Francisco Sablan and Family, Children of †(Miguel A. & Pilar M. Palacios), Maria P. (Mako) & Estanislao (Yoshi) Fujihira and Family, Jesus P. & Leonora Palacios and Family, Carmen P. & Joey Dela Cerna and Family, Eleuterio A. & Erlinda Palacios and Family, Antonio A. & Congxiang Palacios and Family

Our dearly beloved Emilia will also be remembered by numerous, Uncles, Aunts, Nephews, Nieces, Cousins, and Friends.

Nightly Mass is being offered at San Antonio Church, Monday to Saturday 6:00pm and on Sunday 9:00am.

On Monday, September 26, 2016 our dearly beloved will be escorted from the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation at 7:30am to San Antonio Church where the Responso, Holy Rosary, Viewing, and the Mass for Christian Burial will be held. The Mass is set for 11:00a.m. She will then be escorted to the Mount Carmel Cemetery in Chalan Kanoa, where she will be laid to rest.

Please join us in prayer.
Thank you and Si Yu'us Maase

From the Family

Life & Style

Burberry expands on heritage in impressive show at new venue

LONDON (AP) — The message was not lost on the hundreds of guests at the Burberry catwalk show Monday night when they were greeted with glasses of sparkling wine rather than the champagne often offered at London Fashion Week.

It was Nyetimber, a superb (and pricy) English sparkling wine sometimes served by Queen Elizabeth II, rather than French champagne, as if to emphasize that the Burberry show would be a celebration of all things British, not an attempt to mimic the French or Italian approach to fashion.

Just as England's wine growers believe global warming will make the chalky soil of the South Downs rival the finest French vineyards, so the people of Burberry believe the brand can shine most brightly by emphasizing its very British approach to style.

Instead of simply talking about its heritage, Burberry put it on display.

That's why there were busts of famous Brits from Shakespeare to Queen Victoria to Alfred Hitchcock on display



AP
Models wear creations by Burberry, during their September 16 runway show at London Fashion Week in London, Monday, Sept. 19, 2016.

in the lavishly decorated Soho venue used for the show, along with displays of historical sketches, luxury wallpapers used by the brand in the past, photographs of young Winston Churchill and even a Burberry trench coat dating

back to 1920, still usable and in vogue today.

This veritable orgy of Britishness picked up pace when the show began with dozens of outfits based on fanciful variations of the famous trench coat that creative di-

rector Christopher Bailey believes to be at the heart of the brand's appeal. He calls the trench an article of clothing that transcends gender, which was of great use for a collection inspired by Virginia Woolf's novel "Orlando,"

about a poet who changes gender to become a woman.

"I've always looked at the

trench coat as something that is completely genderless," he said after the show. "Men wear it. Women wear it, children wear it. It goes from real classicism, a very conservative look, to very edgy fashion and modern styles. I always use the trench coat as my starting point for everything, and I just felt with this collection, because of the book 'Orlando,' it all just seemed to come together."

A beautifully printed edition of the book was given to each guest to emphasize its role in the collection.

"I was looking for this idea of fluidity of gender, fluidity of travel, and I love the poetry in 'Orlando,'" Bailey said.

"Of course the book is one thing, then there's the film which takes you on this magical tour of different worlds, different periods, sexuality, the way that we see the world, and it just resonated with this collection, in terms of celebrating the beautiful crafts and historical techniques we used to make the clothes and the way we're using technology to communicate the ideas."

New book brings Atlas Obscura site's wonders to printed page

NEW YORK (AP)—An elf school in Iceland. A hospital for falcons in the Middle East. A museum in Independence, Missouri, for artwork made from hair.

These are the types of attractions featured on the Atlas Obscura website, a fan favorite among curiosity-seeking travelers. Now the site is bringing its geeky and magical world of wonders to the printed page.

The new "Atlas Obscura" book offers a sampling of 700 of the website's 10,000 curious attractions, from a pile of rocks in Butte, Montana, that makes bell-tone rings when struck with a hammer, to the skulls and body parts on display at Philadelphia's Mutter Museum.

AtlasObscura.com was launched in 2009. Today it has over 5 million unique visitors a month and 12 million page views, along with over 120,000 registered users. But it's not the type of travel site that features infinity pools, five-star hotels and tasting menus. Instead, you're more likely to find macabre historic landmarks, mysterious natural wonders or odd cultural phenomena, like a Swedish university's collection of plaster-cast

noses or Las Pozas park in Mexico, a subtropical garden filled with Surrealist sculptures.

The book, out Tuesday, is published by Workman, the company that published "1,000 Places to See Before You Die." Workman is billing "Atlas Obscura" as a "bucket-list guide to over 700 of the most curious, unusual, off-the-beaten path destinations from around the globe." Cover blurbs include this from Lena Dunham: "Atlas Obscura may be the only thing that can still inspire me to leave my apartment."

Why take Atlas Obscura out of the virtual world and onto the printed page? "There is nothing like a book," said Dylan Thuras, who founded the site with Joshua Foer. "It's hard to explain to people exactly what Atlas Obscura is, so we just felt like it would be so nice to distill this into a beautiful, physical object and be able to hand it to someone. Open it to any page and hopefully it gives people a sense of joy and wonder. For me, having worked in the ephemeral medium of the internet for so long, to hold something in my hand and say this is the result of years of work, it feels satisfying."

Jim Carrey calls lawsuit over ex's death 'heartless'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Jim Carrey says a wrongful death lawsuit filed by the estranged husband of his ex-girlfriend is a heartless attempt to exploit him and vowed the fight the case.

Mark Burton of Portland sued Carrey in Los Angeles Superior Court on Monday, accusing the actor of providing the prescription drugs his wife Cathriona White used to overdose in September 2015. The wrongful death lawsuit contends Carrey improperly obtained prescriptions for Ambien and the powerful

opioid oxycodone under the alias Arthur King.

The suit accuses Carrey of giving White the medications days before she was found dead in one of Carrey's homes. White and Carrey dated in 2012 and were photographed together in May 2015.

"What a terrible shame," Carrey wrote in a statement. "It would be easy for me to get in a back room with this man's lawyer and make this



Carrey

go away, but there are some moments in life when you have to stand up and defend your honor against the evil in this world.

"I will not tolerate this heartless attempt to exploit me or the woman I loved," Carrey wrote. "I really hope that some day soon people will stop trying to profit from this and let her rest in peace."

Coroner's officials ruled the 30-year-old makeup art-

ist's death a suicide.

Burton and White married in 2013. A coroner's official told reporters that the pair were separated and planned to divorce, however Burton's attorney Michael Avenatti declined to characterize their relationship beyond saying they were legally married at the time of White's death.

The lawsuit accuses Carrey of violating a section of California's Health and Safety Code against the use of aliases to obtain prescription medications.

Amal Clooney, Yazidi rape victim demand prosecution of IS

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—Joined by human rights lawyer Amal Clooney, a Yazidi woman who described praying for death while being raped by her Islamic State captors called on world leaders Monday to step up efforts to bring the militants group to justice for genocide and other crimes.

The two women said not one Islamic State militant has been tried for atrocities. British Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson suggested that could change soon.

Johnson, whose country helped organize a meeting of foreign ministers to address efforts to prosecute Islamic State militants, said he and Iraqi Foreign Minister Ibrahim al-Jaafari would urge the U.N. to take the lead on "the vital gathering and the preserving of evidence" of crimes committed by the group.

Nadia Murad, who was captured by the militants in 2014, said she was repeatedly raped and prayed for death until she escaped. Named U.N. special

ambassador last week, the 23-year-old appealed to the world to "stop the extermination of my people."

"Why is a survivor like me knocking on the door of the International Court of Justice to get justice?" she said at the meeting, held on the sidelines of the U.N. General Assembly summit.

Clooney, Murad's legal representative, said Yazidi victims "want to appear before a judge." She urged the U.N. Security Council to

focus on "genocide against Yazidis."

IS, she said, "has vowed to wipe them out simply because they are Yazidis" and noted that "there has not been a single member of ISIS held accountable anywhere in the world for its genocide."

Earlier, Clooney told NBC's "Today" show that she discussed with her husband, George Clooney, her effort to legally fight the IS group. She said he understands "this is my work."

New exhibit invites 'Avatar' fans to visit Pandora in person

Fans of the film "Avatar" can now experience Pandora in person.

The "Avatar: Discover Pandora" exhibition will open in Taiwan in December before traveling the world

next year.

Fox Consumer Products said Monday the exhibit will feature flora and fauna from the fictional planet as well as interactive experiences with its indigenous popula-

tion, the Na'vi.

"Avatar: Discover Pandora" will be on view in Taipei for three months. Future destinations for the exhibit have not been announced. (AP)

Colbert, Oliver to join forces for film festival fundraiser

NEWARK, N.J. (AP)—Stephen Colbert (kohl-BEHR') and John Oliver will join forces for an event that will benefit a New Jersey film festival.

The Nov. 19 event at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark was announced Monday by organizers of the Montclair Film Festival.

tival.

They say the duo will discuss their creative influences and the political scene as part of an event called "Wow, That Was Weird: A Post-Election Evening With Stephen Colbert and John Oliver."

Colbert was the longtime host of "The Colbert Report"

on Comedy Central before became the host of "The Late Show" on CBS last fall. Oliver is the host of HBO's "Last Week Tonight with John Oliver," which won an Emmy on Sunday night.

Colbert lives in Montclair and has supported the festival for years.



AP
This image released by 20th Century Fox shows the characters Neytiri, right, and Jake in a scene from the 2009 movie "Avatar."

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Marc Jacobs apologizes for response to critics of dreadlocks

NEW YORK (AP)—Marc Jacobs has apologized for his response to criticism over showcasing his models in dreadlocks during the final day of New York Fashion Week. The white designer was criticized on social media after his mostly white lineup of models was outfitted with rainbow dreadlocks for his Thursday show. Some accused Jacobs of appropriating black culture. A screengrab shows Jacobs responding to his critics on Instagram by saying it was "funny" that they don't "criticize women of color for straightening their hair." Jacobs also wrote that he doesn't see color or race and that he was "sorry to read that so many people are narrow minded." Jacobs apologized Sunday on Instagram for what he called "the lack of sensitivity unintentionally expressed by my brevity."

Fans snap up tickets for Prince tribute concert in St. Paul

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP)—Fans have snapped up tickets to next month's Prince tribute concert in St. Paul. Tickets to the Oct. 13 concert went on sale at 10 a.m. Monday via Ticketmaster and the box office at Xcel Energy Center. The Star Tribune reports tickets were gone instantly. The tickets ranged from \$19.99 to \$152.50. Stevie Wonder, Christina Aguilera, Chaka Khan, John Mayer and Tori Kelly are among performers lined up for the concert sanctioned by Prince's family. Prince's family originally planned to hold the show at the new NFL stadium in his hometown of Minneapolis. However, organizers said last week that it will be at the smaller Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul.

Prince died of an accidental drug overdose at his Paisley Park recording studio in April.

Virginia governor spotted with Willie Nelson and his weed

BRISTOW, Va. (AP)—Posing for pictures is part of every governor's job. Posing with a can of marijuana—not so much. But Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe did just that, inadvertently, when he went to greet country music legend Willie Nelson this weekend.

A picture posted on Twitter shows McAuliffe and Nelson, who was performing in Virginia. On the table between them is a can of Willie's Reserve, Nelson's brand of marijuana that's sold in Colorado and Washington. Marijuana possession is illegal in Virginia. McAuliffe Spokesman Brian Coy said the governor spent about 10 minutes in Nelson's trailer and didn't realize what was on the table. Coy said McAuliffe wouldn't recognize marijuana or paraphernalia "if it walked up and shook his hand." Coy said McAuliffe may be cool, "but he's not that cool."

Kiefer Sutherland rises to power as 'Designated Survivor'

NEW YORK (AP)—Wherever she was, Natascha McElhone's ears must have been burning thanks to Kiefer Sutherland, who stars as her devoted husband and the inadvertent president of the United States in ABC's much-anticipated new thriller "Designated Survivor."

"Aside from the way she can light up a room," said Sutherland, singing her praises, "Natascha's one of the freest actors I've ever worked with. That kind of freedom allowed me to relax a bit and put more of myself into my character."

Sutherland, who spent a decade as action hero Jack Bauer in Fox's "24," is primed to show viewers a new side

of himself as Tom Kirkman, a low-level cabinet member (and political independent) suddenly drafted as the nation's chief executive after an attack on the U.S. Capitol kills the incumbent president and wipes

out Congress during the State of the Union address. "Designated Survivor" premieres Wednesday at 10 p.m. EDT.

"My character," said Sutherland in his husky purr, "was an architect with an idea for low-income housing who became a member of the cabinet. He was never elected to anything. He wears a tweed jacket!"



Sutherland

Thrust into the Oval Office, Kirkman must resurrect a shattered government while marshaling the campaign to find its attackers. Meanwhile, he must protect what's most important to him: his

wife and their two kids.

"The show covers such a wide landscape," said Sutherland. "How does he get the country back on its feet? Who did the bombing, and what is the appropriate response? And what happens to a family that inherits the White House overnight? My character will get to navigate all of those things."

Andrea Wulf's Humboldt biography wins Science Book Prize

LONDON (AP)—A biography of German naturalist and explorer Alexander von Humboldt has been named science book of the year.

Andrea Wulf's "The Invention of Nature" was awarded the 25,000-pound (\$33,000) Science Book Prize on Monday.

It charts the life of the influ-

ential 18th- and 19th-century scientist who gave his name to mountains, cities, a lunar sea and a type of penguin.

Writer Bill Bryson, who chaired the judging panel, said Wulf's book was "a thrilling adventure story ... about a polymath who had an extraordinary impact on our contemporary understanding of nature."

The Royal Society Insight Investment Science Book Prize celebrates science books in English aimed at non-specialist readers.

Wulf beat finalists including Tim Birkhead's egg exploration "The Most Perfect Thing" and "The Gene," by Pulitzer Prize winner Siddhartha Mukherjee.

Husband feel overworked at his job and in his bed

DEAR ABBY: I am 23, married for four years and have three children. My wife and I have always had strong sex drives. I recently accepted a dream job that pays very well. On the downside, I work 12 to 14 hours a day, and by the time I get home I'm exhausted.

I love my wife very much and want to meet her needs, but she wants sex every night. I'm afraid if I tell her I have to save my energy for my job, it will cause problems. How can I get around this?

OVERWORKED IN ARKANSAS

DEAR OVERWORKED: The shortest path to a goal is a direct line. One thing more important in a marriage than sex is communication. Talk to your wife. If you don't, she may think that after three children you find her less attractive.

Sex is most satisfying when both partners enjoy it. To some women, their standard of living is at least as important as frequent sex. It's time to find out if the woman you married is one of them. (If she's not, you may have to change jobs.)

DEAR ABBY: How do I tell my ex I no longer want to babysit her son? The boy is not mine. When we lived together she

found a job, and I told her I would watch her son on weekends while she was working.

I moved out of the apartment we shared a year ago. Between working nights at my job and her son having special needs and requiring full-time attention, I'm exhausted and losing patience. Is there a graceful way to bow out?

GETTING STRESSED OUT IN VIRGINIA

DEAR GETTING STRESSED: Probably not. However, because you feel the responsibility has become more than you are able to handle, you need to tell your ex she needs to make other arrangements for a sitter for her son. Because your relationship with her ended a year ago, I doubt she'll be surprised. But do not expect her to welcome the news or like it.

DEAR ABBY: I can't wait until election season is over. One side of my family is liberal; the other side is conservative. At my request, they don't argue when we are all together. There are occasional disagreements, but fortunately, they never escalate.

The problem is, when I spend time with any of them separately I am lectured nonstop about the "evils" of the other side. They don't quit. I just want to scream, "Shut up! Shut up! I

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

don't care!" I am at the point that I no longer want to vote. I don't know what to do. There's no way I can avoid my family completely. Please advise.

"SHUT UP!" IN NEW MEXICO

DEAR S.U.: Please don't allow your family drama to stop YOU from voting. Try this: The next time your relatives inject politics into the conversation, smile, look them in the eye and say, "Let's talk about something pleasant, shall we?" and change the subject.

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby - Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



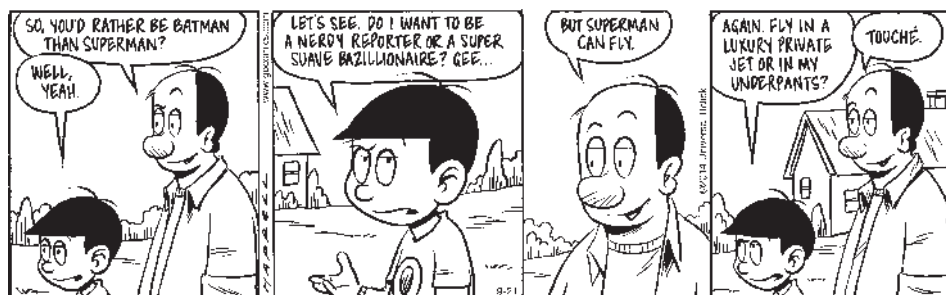
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Binge
4 911 responders
8 Vatican VIP
12 Swelled head
13 Actress Sorvino
14 Ireland
15 Price point?
16 Fall color
18 "The Hobbit" baddie
20 Turf
21 Appear
24 Candy-maker Willy
28 Fall-related
32 Hiking snack
33 Greek consonant
34 Evaluated, with "up"
36 Force (Lat.)
37 Corn recipe
39 Fall off
41 "Ta-da!"

DOWN

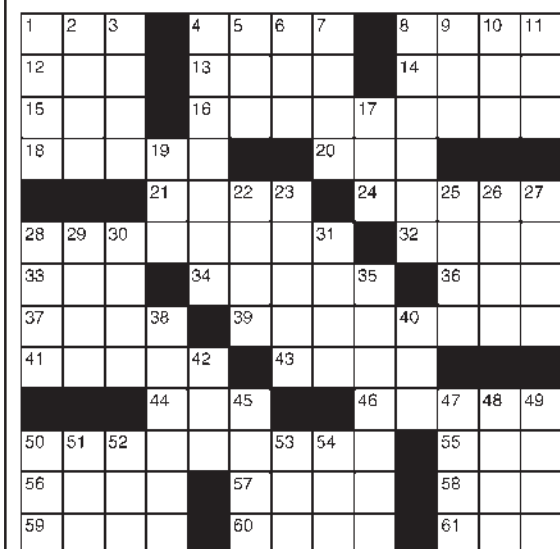
43 Actor LaBeouf
44 Olympics chant
46 Gooney treat
50 Fall guy
55 Flamenco cheer
56 Landed
57 Actor's quest
58 Seminary subj.
59 Prescriptions, for short
60 Unoriginal one
61 "You bet!"

3 Type of dancer
4 Logos
5 Russian space station
6 Part of TNT
7 Droops
8 Asta, to Nora
9 Hockey's Bobby
10 Picnic dessert
11 Finale
12 do you do?"
13 Baton Rouge sch.
14 Wife of Geraint
15 Labyrinth
16 Jubilation
17 Morays
18 Muppet eagle
19 Browns, on scoreboards
20 Help
21 "Alley"
22 Hearty brew

Solution time: 24 mins.

D	E	M	O	C	R	A	B	S	P	A
E	T	A	-	A	U	R	A	P	E	R
L	A	D	I	E	S	M	A	N	O	A
L	A	D	I	E	S	M	A	N	O	A
A	N	S	E	L	S	A	L	T		
T	O	T	S		T	H	U	M	B	S
O	D	F		R	O	O	M	S	F	R
P	E	E	K	A	B	O		W	A	G
L	I	T	E		T	O	N	E	S	
S	K	Y	P	E		A	E	R	O	
O	L	D		C	O	F	F	E	E	C
D	E	A		A	L	O	T		R	U
S	E	N		P	E	G	S		S	E
				S	E	A	T			

Yesterday's answer 9-21



STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jason Derulo, 27; Luke Wilson, 45; Faith Hill, 49; Bill Murray, 66.

Happy Birthday: Evaluate situations before you let your emotions take over, causing you to make assumptions and act out of character. Bide your time and let situations unfold naturally, and you will come out on top. Positive changes at home can be made if you use your imagination and do some of the labor yourself instead of hiring a contractor. Your numbers are 1, 12, 21, 27, 34, 38, 42.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Take on a physical challenge that will help build your confidence and encourage you to look and feel great. A commitment can be made that will improve your financial situation. If you love someone, be sure to let him or her know. ****

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Traveling for business or knowledge will pay off. Your ability to share your ideas and convince others to support your actions will encourage positive changes that will benefit you and those who have assisted you on your journey. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Emotions will surface, and arguments will take over if you aren't careful about how you address sensitive issues. Don't limit what you can do by saying something you'll regret. Be diplomatic and offer fair solutions. Choose affection over discord. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Express your thoughts and feelings, and share your ideas and plans for the future. Partnerships will make a difference, so take care of any situations that could develop into a problem. Avoid taking any impulsive actions. ****

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): The information you pick up will help you get ahead. An unexpected turn of events will be to your benefit. An opportunity will come through someone you have worked with in the past. Romance will improve your day. ****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Keep your emotions hidden to avoid an altercation. If you don't agree with someone, opt to do your own thing. It's important not to follow the crowd if you feel it isn't right for you. Problems with elders will require time. **

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Search for a place or destination that will spark your imagination and encourage you to bring new ideas and vitality to the way you look, the things you do and your personal connection with someone you love. *****

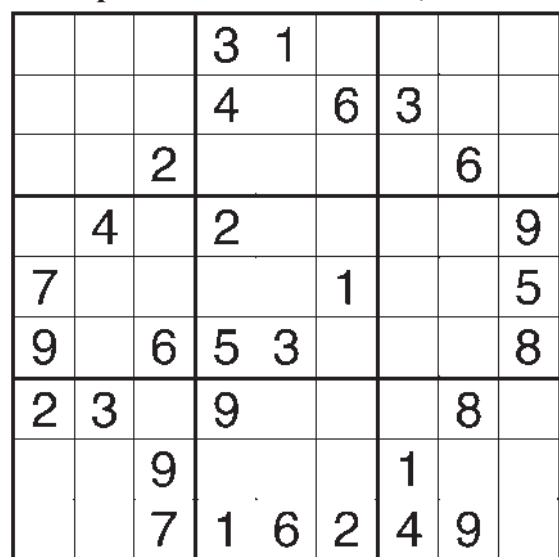
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): A proposition will turn out to be a disappointment. Don't believe everything you hear or let your emotions lead to loss. Do things that will help you, not someone who is trying to take advantage of you. ***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Emotions will intensify if you have been evading issues. If you want to make changes, speak up and get approval from anyone your choices will affect. Once the coast is clear, you will feel better and be able to advance. ***

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



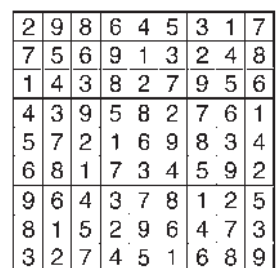
Difficulty Level ★★

9/21

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer



EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Hang on to your cash and try not to let anyone guilt you into something that you don't want to do. Uncertainty will set in if you start to question your beliefs or are tempted to change your standards. ***

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Home improvements will pay off, but before you start making changes, set a budget and stick to it. Someone will get angry if you put too much onus on helping others instead of helping out at home. A romantic gesture will help. *****

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Your intuition will guide you in matters pertaining to home and family. You'll be able to judge situations fairly and offer help that is appreciated. Use your wisdom, knowledge and expertise, and you will make a difference. *****
Birthday Baby: You are creative, detailed and kind. You are dedicated and loyal.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on [twitter](https://twitter.com/eugenialast)/[facebook](https://facebook.com/eugenialast)/[linkedin](https://linkedin.com/company/eugenialast).

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

DIPLOMACY

Solution: 5 letters

G T T D I S P U T E N V O Y S
O N C U L T U R E G I O N S R
V E I O S T A M O L P I D I S
E M L P N D E T A I T O G E N
R E F D E F S L A E D H S N O
N S N E I E E A T A T S T O I
M A O H C A K R F S R R N I T
E E C M I O L E E E N U E A T
N P S L U S N O C N O K T A N
T P L L T T T O G A C A S R G
S A A A A I U O M U E E I T I
K W T C K M M A R I E P S I E
N E T E E M R E L Y C S S B R
A G R E E U P O W E R S A R O
R S S E U S S I F Y L I M A F

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Agree, Appeasement, Arbitration, Assistants, Conferences, Conflict, Consuls, Court, Culture, Deals, Dialogue, Diplomats, Dispute, Economics, Envoys, Family, Foreign, Formal, Governments, History, Issues, Law, Meet, Mutual, Nations, Negotiate, Peacekeeping, Power, Ranks, Regions, Rights, Safe, Speakers, State, Summits, Tact, Time, Trade
Yesterday's Answer: Slither
Treasury 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 or 24 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

CLASSIFIED ADS

EMPLOYMENT



Director of Sales & Marketing. Minimum of ten (10) years Resort Sales & Marketing management experience required. Minimum of three (3) years Executive position experience. Responsible for planning, developing and implementing Sales & Marketing strategies for all Market segments, including Russian market. Fluent English and Russian. Knowledge of CNMI Travel industry and Russian market required. E-mail resume to info@mangoresort.com.

Part-time help wanted \$10-\$15 per hour. Must have reliable transportation. Looking for hard working,

EMPLOYMENT



dependable person, available to work some nights and weekends. Must have good computer skills and have access to a computer and scanner. Please email resume and contact information to: beneal2630@hotmail.com for consideration. We will train the right candidate!

Island Pro Services JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

- (4) **General maintenance:** Minimum wage Two to five years experience in a related field.

For inquiries or resume submission, please email islandpro2015@gmail.com
Serious Inquiries Only Please

MICRONESIAN LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Micronesian Legal Services is looking for a self-motivated individual to fill the following position:

Computer Support Specialist

Qualifications: Preferably a four-year STEM degree. A minimum of two to four years relevant experience.

Installation, trouble shooting, repair, testing, configuration, and maintenance of servers, desktop, and laptop computers, printers, and network equipment. Applicant must be familiar with and able to install, configure, and administer SQL server 2008 R2 or later; proficient with Microsoft Access 2007 or later. Microsoft certified a plus.

Salary depending on experience.

Please email your resume and current Police Clearance to william.fife@mlscnet.org; or mail to P.O. Box 5551 CHRB, Saipan, MP 96950.

Applications are being accepted until October 3, 2016.

MLSC is an Equal Opportunity Employer

ROBERT TENORIO TORRES LAW OFFICE JOB OPENING: LEGAL ASSISTANT

Looking for motivated applicant to work in Billing/ accounts receivables work in law firm.
Starting Salary: \$7.00 per hour. / U.S.
Citizens/ residents preferred.

Submit resume/police clearance/driver's license: rttlaw@pticom.com or fax: 234-5749
or submit to law office in Chalan Kiya, Saipan.
Please call 234-7859 for inquiries.
Announcement Close 9/23



Loss Adjuster

The USDA, Farm Service Agency is accepting applications for two (2) Loss Adjuster positions – one (1) on Rota and one (1) on Saipan. Applicants **MUST** have experience in Tropical Agriculture. A Loss Adjuster is an independent contractor who will visit farms for the purpose of inspecting, measuring, and appraising agricultural crops. A Loss Adjuster will also ensure compliance with acreage and production reporting requirements. Training will be provided. Pay begins at \$10.00 per hour for orientation, formal classroom, and on the job training. Pay will increase to \$18.00 per hour after successful completion and certification. Authorized travel expenses for training will be paid.

Interested applicants may inquire with the Guam County FSA Office at (671) 300-8551. Completed applications must be submitted by close of business September 30, 2016 to the Guam County FSA Office, 770 E. Sunset Blvd., Suite 265, Barrigada, Guam 96913. Fax: (855) 356-9491.

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PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT INVITATION TO BID ITB NO.: ITB16-DLNR/DFW-173

SUBMISSION DATE: OCTOBER 06, 2016 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

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/S/ RICHARD B. SEMAN
SECRETARY OF DLNR

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

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Tougher tests to come for Wentz, high-flying Eagles



CHICAGO (AP)—Carson Wentz took some hard hits, showed poise in the pocket and led the Philadelphia Eagles to another victory.

They're about to find out how they stack up against a playoff contender. But they're doing just fine so far.

Wentz followed up an impressive NFL debut with another solid performance, throwing for 190 yards and a touchdown, and the Eagles beat the Chicago Bears 29-14 on Monday night.

"It was a cool stage, Monday Night Football," Wentz said. "Everything's sweet. But again, it was a football game and we came out with a win."

The No. 2 overall pick, Wentz is delivering as advertised so far for the Eagles (2-0).

He followed up a strong performance against Cleveland by completing 21 of 34 passes and playing turn-over-free ball for the second straight game.

But it's one thing to do it against the rebuilding Browns and Bears. The schedule gets a little tougher next week when the Eagles host the Pittsburgh Steelers.

The Bears, meanwhile, are in danger of seeing their season slip away. Not only did they follow up a season-opening loss at Houston with a dismal performance, they lost quarterback Jay Cutler to a right thumb injury.

With that in mind, here are some takeaways from the game.

The Eagles aren't getting much from their run game, but their defense sure is chipping in.

After holding Cleveland to 10 points, that group gave up only one of Chicago's two touchdowns.

"They're playing well together as a team," coach Doug Pederson said. "The communication is great. The defensive line is rolling off the ball, getting pressure, making the (opposing) quarterback move



off one spot, having to relocate his feet, putting the quarterback in different throwing positions.

"Then the back end is doing a really nice job in coverage. They're just playing together as a unit."

The Bears lost the game and they lost their quarterback. If Cutler is not available, Brian Hoyer figures to start at Dallas next week.

Cutler was seen having his right hand examined on the sideline early in the third following a strip-sack by Destiny Vaeao, though he said it happened sometime earlier in the game. That play just aggravated it.

As if the injury wasn't enough, he also got an earful

from injured linebacker Pernell McPhee after an interception late in the third quarter. The two had words after a pass got picked off by Philadelphia's Nigel Bradham. Cutler walked to the locker room and did not return.

The Bears are being hurt offensively by the lack of a running game, whether it's because of poor blocking with a line that has just come together or a lack of execution.

Their running backs had just 55 yards on 17 carries after going for 61 on 18 attempts in a season-opening loss at Houston.

"I mean, nothing has gotten going like we planned to," Cutler said. "That falls on me. That falls on the rest of the of-

Browns signing free agent quarterback Whitehurst

CLEVELAND (AP)—Their quarterbacks falling fast, the Browns needed to find a veteran with experience.

Charlie Whitehurst has come to their rescue.

Cleveland has reached agreement on a one-year contract with the free agent quarterback who worked out for the Browns on Monday, a day after Josh McCown went down with an injured left shoulder in the home opener.

McCown's injury came a week after Robert Griffin III suffered a broken bone in his left shoulder in the season opener and will miss at least seven more games.

Browns coach Hue Jackson is expected to start rookie Cody Kessler this week at Miami, but he now has another option in the 34-year-old Whitehurst, who spent last season with Tennessee and Indianapolis. He played in four games for the Colts before being placed on injured reserve.

With the Colts, he worked with Browns offensive assistant Pep Hamilton and their relationship likely influenced the decision by Cleveland's front office to sign him.

A backup most of his career, Whitehurst has gone 2-7 in nine career NFL starts. He made five starts for the Titans in 2014 and was involved

in the biggest comeback in Browns history.

Whitehurst replaced an injured Jake Locker and threw two touchdown passes as Tennessee built a 28-3 lead. But the Browns stormed back behind quarterback Brian Hoyer to win 29-28.

The 6-foot-4, 220-pound Whitehurst was drafted in the third round by San Diego in 2006. Whitehurst played at Clemson.

Jackson was vague as he discussed the extent of McCown's injury or any timetable for the 37-year-old's return.

At one point, Jackson joked that he might suit up next for the Browns. Jackson still has his sense of humor, but it could be tested in the coming weeks if the Browns, who play four of their next five games on the road, continue to lose quarterbacks at an alarming rate.

If Kessler starts, and all signs point to that happening, Cleveland will be the first team since the 2008 Kansas City Chiefs to start three QBs in the first three weeks.

McCown's injury was the only major one for the Browns, who also lost Cam Erving (bruised lung) and rookie defensive end Carl Nassib (broken hand) against the Ravens. Erving spent

Philadelphia Eagles wide receiver Nelson Agholor (17) can't come up with a catch against Chicago Bears cornerback Jacoby Glenn (39) during the second half of an NFL football game, Monday, Sept. 19, 2016, in Chicago.

fense. So we've got to take a look at it and whatever is bothering us on offense we've got to get it fixed."

The Eagles won the turnover battle 3-0, including two fumble recoveries. Bradham helped seal the win with his interception and return to the Chicago 2 right after Philadelphia scored.

But another big one came on the strip-sack by undrafted free agent Destiny Vaeao that teammate Connor Barwin said "turned the game." The take-away came with the Bears on the Philadelphia 43.

As bad as the Bears have looked so far, things could be worse. Just ask Fox.

"Well, not as tough as last year because we were 0-3," he said.

The Bears dropped home games to Green Bay and Arizona and got shut out at Seattle before beating Oakland at home. That was their lone victory at Soldier Field last season.

Sunday night in the hospital and will miss several games.

McCown was injured in the first quarter, but remained in the game despite being in pain. Afterward, he became emotional when he talked about wanting to stay on the field with his teammates.

"He is one of the toughest human beings I've seen play in a long time," Jackson said. "He has the complete trust and respect of the locker room because of what he does and how he goes about it. He will fight to the bitter end."

Jackson was somewhat evasive in describing the injury to McCown, who missed the final five games last season with a broken collarbone.

"I don't know that it is totally broken," Jackson said. "I don't think that, but I know that there is something that is not right. It is more of a deep sprain at this time than anything, but I don't think there is anything totally broken."

Jackson's comments might indicate there is a hairline fracture and doctors will wait to see how it heals in the next few weeks.

For now, the starting job belongs to Kessler, who warmed up twice on the sideline in case McCown couldn't continue.

Bucks agree to \$100M deal with Antetokounmpo



WISCONSIN (AP)—The Milwaukee Bucks have agreed to a contract extension with Giannis Antetokounmpo, locking up one of the most versatile players in the NBA.

The Bucks announced the deal with the forward on Monday, and two people familiar with the agreement told The Associated Press that it was worth four years and \$100 million. The people spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity because the team's announcement did not include terms.

Yahoo Sports first reported

details of the extension.

The 6-foot-11 Antetokounmpo averaged 16.9 points, 7.7 rebounds and 4.3 assists last season, his third in the league. With his length and versatility, he has turned into a matchup nightmare for opponents.

The Bucks see Antetokounmpo and forward Jabari Parker as the building blocks of an emerging franchise. The deal ensures Antetokounmpo will be under contract in 2018, when the team is scheduled open a new downtown arena.

Antetokounmpo has improved steadily since being drafted in the first round of the

2013 draft with the 15th overall pick, considered a project out of Greece.

Milwaukee missed the playoffs last season after making a surprise run in 2014-15. But Antetokounmpo blossomed after taking over ball-handling duties late last season, becoming the first player in franchise history to record five triple-doubles in a season.

The Bucks open training camp next week in Madison, Wisconsin.

"In my fourth year, my role is going to be a lot bigger," Antetokounmpo said in April. "It's time for me to step up and lead this team."

Tempers flare, Dodgers rally past Giants in 9th



LOS ANGELES (AP)—Adrian Gon-

zalez hit a game-winning double in the ninth inning, and the Los Angeles Dodgers rallied Monday night for a testy 2-1 victory over the San Francisco Giants that increased their NL West lead to six games.

Two innings after a shoving match broke out when tempers flared between Madison Bumgarner and Yasiel Puig again, the Dodgers' comeback in the ninth began with pinch-hitter Andrew Toles' leadoff single.

Corey Seager singled past diving second baseman Joe Panik on a two-strike pitch from Javier Lopez (1-3), allowing the speedy Toles to reach third.

Justin Turner's single tied the game, and Gonzalez followed with a drive to deep right field that eluded Hunter Pence.

Joe Blanton (6-2) won in relief after the latest bullpen flop by the struggling Giants followed a tense pitchers' duel between Bumgarner and fellow ace Clayton Kershaw.

Both benches and bullpens cleared during a seventh-inning scuffle.

Bumgarner fielded a slow tapper by Puig along the first base line and threw him out to end the inning. The left-hander punched his glove emphatically and said something that didn't appear to be cordial.

Puig glared back and responded, and soon both teams massed near first base before the dustup ended without any punches.

The late-game theatrics overshadowed the latest matchup between two of the game's top left-handers, Bumgarner and Kershaw.

Bumgarner allowed one hit over seven scoreless innings, struck out 10, walked none and retired his final 10 batters.

Kershaw gave up an unearned run and three hits in his third start since returning from a back injury. He struck out seven and walked one. The three-time NL Cy Young Award winner retired seven in a row before leaving.

The Giants scored their lone run during an odd sequence in the third.

Red Sox 5, Orioles 2

In Baltimore, Rick Porcello pitched a four-hitter for his major league-high 21st victory, David Ortiz and Mookie Betts hit two-run homers and the Boston Red Sox beat the Baltimore Orioles to pad their lead in the AL East.

Coming off a four-game sweep of the Yankees, Boston



Los Angeles Dodgers' Corey Seager, below, dives into home as he scores on a walk-off double by Adrian Gonzalez while his teammates run out to celebrate during the ninth inning of a baseball game, Monday, Sept. 19, 2016, in Los Angeles.

sustained its late-season surge in the opener of an important four-game series for both clubs. The Red Sox stand atop the division by a season-high four games.

Adam Jones homered and Mark Trumbo picked up his 102nd RBI, but the Orioles dropped into a tie with Toronto for the first AL wild card.

Rangers 3, Angels 2

In Arlington, Ian Desmond had an RBI single with no outs in the ninth inning and Texas moved closer to the AL West title.

Elvis Andrus led off the ninth with a sharp single to left off Jose Alvarez (1-3) before Carlos Gomez turned an attempted sacrifice into a bunt single. Desmond, an All-Star center fielder, followed with his hit to right that scored Andrus.

Andrus also homered for the Rangers, who cut their magic number to three in pursuit of their second consecutive division title.

Blue Jays 3, Mariners 2

In Seattle, Marco Estrada took a no-hitter into the seventh inning, Edwin Encarnacion hit his 41st home run and Toronto beat Seattle in the opener of a critical three-game series.

Estrada (9-9) had allowed only two walks before Robinson Cano led off the seventh with a line drive up the middle on a 2-1 pitch. Cano and Nelson Cruz walked in the fourth inning, but Estrada otherwise kept the Mariners off the bases.

Cubs 5, Reds 2

In Chicago, Dexter Fowler hit a tiebreaking single with two outs in the seventh inning, and Chicago beat Cincinnati.

Fowler's line drive into center field capped a three-run rally for the Cubs after they were shut down by Tim Lincecum most of the night. It also made a winner of Jason Hammel (15-9), who pitched seven solid innings.

Jason Heyward added a two-run homer in the eighth as the Cubs moved seven games ahead of Washington for the best record in the National League, lowering their magic number for clinching home-field advantage throughout the NL playoffs to five.

Braves 7, Mets 3

In New York, Aaron Blair won for the first time in 13 major league starts, Freddie Freeman drove in three runs off a misfiring Noah

Syndergaard and Atlanta slowed New York's wild-card chase.

Freeman had four hits for the Braves, who have the worst record in the National League, and rookie Dansby Swanson had three hits and three RBI.

New York had won 11 of its previous 14 games. The Mets have a one-game lead over San Francisco and St. Louis for the first NL wild card.

Cardinals 5, Rockies 3

In Denver, Carlos Martinez threw five effective innings and added a two-run double, helping St. Louis gain ground in the NL playoff race.

The Cardinals moved into a tie for the second wild card with the Giants.

Martinez, who turns 25 on Wednesday, gave himself an early birthday present by holding Colorado to two runs while striking out six. The right-hander is 9-1 on the road this season.

Astros 4, Athletics 2

In Oakland, Marwin Gonzalez hit a tiebreaking, two-run single off Ryan Madison in the ninth inning and Houston came from behind to beat Oakland.

The Astros trailed 2-1 going into the eighth but tied it on pinch-hitter Tyler White's RBI double then scored twice in the ninth to bolster their slim playoff hopes.

Jose Altuve and Carlos Correa opened the inning with singles.

Marlins 4, Nationals 3

In Miami, Giancarlo Stanton homered and Miami beat Washington.

Christian Yelich, Ichiro Suzuki and Derek Dietrich also drove in a run for the Marlins and A.J. Ramos pitched the ninth for his 38th save in 41 chances.

Brian Ellington (3-2) picked up the win with an inning of relief while Mat Latos (7-3) took the loss.

Royals 8, White Sox 3

In Kansas City, Yordano Ventura picked up his first complete-game victory, Kendrys Morales hit a three-run homer and Kansas City defeated Chicago.

The Royals have won three straight, keeping their faint playoff hopes flickering with 12 games remaining. The Royals went 14-5 against the White Sox this year.

Padres 3, Diamondbacks 2

In San Diego, Clayton Richard was sharp for six-plus innings and Wil Myers homered as San Diego defeated Arizona.

Richard (3-3) won his third straight decision, charged with two runs and six hits. He struck out two and walked two. Brandon Maurer pitched the ninth for his 11th save in 13 chances.

Under 3 percent of US athletes in Rio had medical exemptions

NEW YORK (AP)—Fifteen of the 558 athletes in the U.S. delegation at the Rio Olympics—or slightly less than 3 percent—had therapeutic-use exemptions in force during the games.

The exemptions, known as TUEs, came under increased scrutiny last week after Russian hackers broke into the database of the World Anti-Doping Agency and posted confidential medical information online from some athletes.

TUEs let athletes use otherwise-banned substances to treat long-standing medical conditions, such as attention deficit disorder and asthma. Proponents argue those exemptions only level the playing field; critics say they can give competitors an edge.

The hackers largely targeted female U.S. Olympians, among them tennis stars Ser-

ena and Venus Williams and gold medal-winning gymnast Simone Biles. All three, as well as several other prominent athletes whose medical records were posted, said the data strongly supported their use of a TUE.

"I am one of the strongest supporters of maintaining the highest level of integrity in competitive sport and I have been

highly disciplined in following the guidelines," Venus Williams said in a statement.

How the U.S. numbers compare with that of other Olympic delegations is difficult to say—let alone how they compare with the number of TUEs granted by the NFL, NBA, NHL and MLB because of differing standards and reporting practices.

Olympic athletes can re-

quest—and receive—a TUE from either their international sports federation or a national anti-doping agency. All exemptions are forwarded to WADA, which does not grant TUEs but can appeal them, and then provided to the International Olympic Committee ahead of the games.

Both WADA and the IOC declined several requests from The Associated Press for those numbers before, during and after the Olympics.

The U.S. delegation total was provided by the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency. According to the agency's 2015 annual report, 136 of the 2,500 or so athletes in its elite Olympic programs—about 5 percent—were granted TUEs in 2015.

Travis Tygart, CEO of USADA, maintains there's little abuse of TUEs in sports that use WADA-accredited protocols. In addition to the documentation required, he said the doctors and scientists who review requests can distinguish between legitimate medical needs to treat chronic conditions (i.e., corticosteroids like prednisone for asthma) from performance-enhancers (often anabolic and androgenic steroids).

"The truth is, it would be foolish to try and cheat this way. If you're trying to cheat, the idea that you would self-disclose what you're already using, or want to use that is illegal, isn't very bright," Tygart said. "Most of the action by cheats now is focused on substances we haven't yet found, or had a chance to ban—like the meldonium situation."



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US goalkeepers finding success in Solo's absence

ATLANTA—Remember back when Hope Solo had the market cornered on controversy? How times have changed.

In a lot of ways.

The Netherlands was a goal away this spring from claiming the Olympic berth that Sweden instead nabbed. Under the direction of Pia Sundhage, the Swedes then memorably stifled the United States in an Olympic quarterfinal and eliminated the reigning champions in a shootout.

That penalty shootout in Brasilia, in turn, left Solo incapable of stifling her true feelings about Sweden's tactics. Her accusations of cowardice ultimately resulting in a six-month suspension which some feel could mark the permanent conclusion of the goalkeeper's national-team career.

Which makes one wonder what the past week, not to mention those ahead, would have looked like for the United States women's national team had Sweden's Olivia Schough not scored against the Netherlands in the final minute of the first half of an Olympic qualifier in March.

No Sweden in the Olympics, no Solo suspension. So blame Holland.

A butterfly flaps its wings and a hurricane happens. Or something like that.

There wasn't quite enough time to think through all of those machinations as Dutch winger Shanice van de Sanden bore down on the opposing goal at full speed in the second minute of her team's game



Ashlyn Harris started for the US in its game against Thailand. Shea and Alyssa Naeher are stepping up in the absence of Hope Solo.

against the U.S. on Sunday. But there was time to realize danger was at hand, and then to realize that it wasn't Solo on hand to make one final effort at averting disaster.

The Dutch player scored with a shot across goal that any keeper would have struggled to stop. The damage was already done up the field to allow van de Sanden the open run at goal. Less than 120 seconds into the game, the United States trailed.

The U.S. eventually erased the deficit for a 3-1 win, a far more useful—and physical—game than the 9-0 rout of Thailand four days earlier.

There was the issue of the moment Sunday with Megan Rapinoe again kneeling during the national anthem. She entered the game to a notably mixed reception in the second half and heard boos every time she touched the ball thereafter—even after setting up the third goal with a long cross that Carli Lloyd headed back to Allie Long. And there was also plenty of the familiar on display. The best part of the team's abbreviated stay in Brazil was Tobin Heath. She was a scalpel on the right side, lifting the U.S. out of its early doldrums to create the tying goal with a

deft cross, which Carli Lloyd finished, and breathing life into the attack.

But even as U.S. coach Jill Ellis said that the games against Thailand and Holland were about wrapping up the summer before turning the focus to preparations for a still-distant World Cup, Solo's absence meant the past week was very much about the future for at least one position.

For Alyssa Naeher, who started Sunday, and Ashlyn Harris, who started against Thailand, the time is now.

"I think they both had exceptional league seasons and kept their teams in tough games,"

Ellis said this week. "So it's allowing them now to compete for that No. 1 spot, to go through a process. [It's] also to identify another keeper to bring in —probably two to bring in to the mix because we want to be



planning. That's where we're at with those two. I think by the time end of January rolls around, heading into [the SheBelieves Cup], hopefully by then it will be identifying a starter.

NMA

From Page 28

33rd Annual Turkey Trot Run, which is set for Nov. 24. The 4.2-mile trek to Mt. Tapochao will have a start time of 6am and winners will be categorized in age groups (U12, U18, Open, 40 to 59 and over 50). Entry fees are \$5 for youth and \$10 for adult runners.

For its last event of the year, NMA will host the 35th Annual Christmas Island Relay. Teams participating in the race from Pacific Islands Club in San Antonio to the Last Command Post in Marpi should have five runners with at least one runner over the age of 40, a female, or in the U16 age group. The event also has a competition for a solo runner.

NMA is looking to have the 13.7-mile race either on Dec. 17 or Dec. 31 and registration fee is \$25.

For more information about these races, contact NMA coach Elias Rangamar at 287-6347 or via email at eli_rang@yahoo.com or NMA secretary general Robin Sapong at 287-

9037 or via email at rsapong@gmail.com.

Rangamar nears completion of coaching course

Meanwhile, Rangamar is on the final two days of the CECS Level III Sprints/Hurdles Course he is attending in Australia.

The course is being held in Townsville, Queensland and is conducted by former Australia national coach Fletcher McEwen. Rangamar is among the 16 people taking up the course, which focused on high speed running, acceleration, start, hurdles, and relays for the practical part of the seminar.

For the classroom sessions, Rangamar and company are learning about biomechanics, physiology, communication, anatomy, injury prevention, coaching theory, techniques, speed, strength, endurance, and, and planning.

At the end of the course, every participant will undergo written and oral exams, according to the organizing Oceania Athletics Association.

DUENAS

From Page 28

quarter, more than doubling Tanapag's output as the losing squad made only 18 markers.

Matt and Ernest Duenas and Douglas Schmidt, the trio that gave Kanoa Resort a championship in another league last week, teamed up in Duenas Compound's rousing start. They combined for 24 points in the first period with Schmidt logging 11 markers and Ernest and Matt adding 7 and 6, respectively, to power Duenas Compound to a commanding 42-18 advantage. The rest of Duenas Compound's points were evenly distributed among seven other players.

As for Tanapag's side, Henry Aguon was the lone bright spot on the team, registering 8 points in the opening canto.

Tanapag never made it out of the deep hole in the remaining three quarters of the game as it could not match Duenas Compound's offensive firepower. Tanapag gave up too many easy baskets to Duenas Compound, which padded its lead to as high as 36 points in the fourth quarter before pulling out its key players midway in the final canto. With Schmidt and company on the bench, Duenas Compound's

offense slowed down a bit, while Tanapag began piling up points to reach half of the century mark.

Schmidt top-scored for Duenas Compound's with his 17 points, while P.J. Duenas came off the bench and also finished in twin digits with 13. James Kintz added 8, while Matt Duenas contributed 8 and Perry Inos and Ernest Duenas had 7 apiece. Five other players completed Duenas Compound's box scores.

Henry Aguon paced Tanapag with his 17 markers, while only five other players hit the board for the northern-side team.

Meanwhile, two more squads will have their debuts in the inaugural league tonight as Chinese Association meets Ace Hardware in the second game at 8pm. In the first match at 6:30pm, it will be a battle between sister teams Junior Ol'Aces and Ol'Aces.

Duenas Compound 81 — Schmidt 17, P. Duenas 13, Kintz 9, Matt Duenas 8, Inos 7, E. Duenas 7, Manny Duenas 6, Sacramento 4, Mostales 4, Santos 2, R. Duenas 2.

Tanapag 50 — H. Aguon 17, J. Lifofoi 8, M. Aguon 7, Kani 7, F. Lifofoi 6, Mira 6.

Scoring by quarters: 42-18, 59-27, 69-40, 80-50.

Mexico-US World Cup qualifier once again in Columbus

CHICAGO (AP)—The United States will play its home World Cup qualifier against Mexico in Columbus, Ohio, for the fifth straight time.

After four consecutive 2-0 home wins at Columbus in qualifiers against El Tri, the U.S. Soccer Federation an-

nounced the decision Monday on the site of the Nov. 11 match.

Seeking its eighth straight World Cup berth, the U.S. opens the final round of the North and Central American and Caribbean re-



FIFA WORLD CUP
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gion at home, then plays four days later at Costa Rica in its second match of the Hexagonal.

The top three nations advance to the 2018 tournament in Russia, and the fourth-place team meets the

No. 5 Asian team in a playoffs for a berth in the 32-nation field.

The USSF prefers Columbus, with a capacity of about 25,000, because it can try to limit sales of many tickets to Columbus Crew season ticket holders and USSF members.

MATANSA

From Page 28

play with Basallo knocking in back-to-back goals to start the second half. Santos also registered his brace in consecutive fashion, while Malig and Altamirano recorded the last two goals for Matansa. Altamirano made the lone goal of Matansa in the first half when he found his target in the 22nd minute.

TanHoldings 5, Kanoa 2

TanHoldings FC also won its season debut after outclassing Kanoa in the second game.

The spring season champion TanHoldings was the more aggressive team right from the get-go to take a 4-0 half-time lead. Kirro Batino gave the winning team its first goal

this season after scoring in the fifth minute, while Thai-phi Austria made it a 2-0 advantage for TanHoldings five minutes later.

Mark Esalan then posted the last two goals for TanHoldings, getting his first in the 12th minute and the second in the 16th.

Kanoa, after being silent in the first half, finally lit up the board in the 37th minute, thanks to Ian Karl Maniago's shot. Kanoa then made it two in a row when Thomas Benavente scored in the 60th minute, but that was it for Kanoa, while TanHoldings had the last say, courtesy of Batino's goal in the 69th.

Paire 6, MP United 2

In the last game in the opening

week of the division, Paire FC topped MP United FC.

Kaden Church starred in Paire's season-debut win after firing four goals. Blake Mister and Jamin Elliot scored the two other goals for Paire, while MP United got one goal apiece from Eun Syu Hahn and Chris Kim.

Both teams struggled early in their first game of the season before Paire outgunned MP United in a six-minute exchange in the latter part of the first half to take a 3-2 advantage. Church started Paire's string of goals when he got his first in the 27th minute, while Mister scored a minute later for their 2-0 lead. Paire stretched it to a 3-0 tally when Elliot made it to the board in the 30th

minute, but MP United countered with back-to-back goals from Hahn (31st minute) and Kim (33rd) to stay in the match, 2-3.

Clinging to a shaky lead after the first half, Paire turned to Church in the second to foil MP United's comeback bid. Church had a hat trick in the final 35 minutes of play, gaining his first in the 38th and the last two in the 41st and 57th minute.

Meanwhile, Paire will go for win No. 2 when it takes on Shirley's in the second game this Saturday at 3pm. Two more matches will be played this weekend with Matansa battling Kanoa in the first game at 1:30pm and Tan Holdings dueling MP United in the third tiff at 4:30pm.

Road to Hell Series 2

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



From left, race organizer Ricky Castro, MTB short course runner-up Shawna Bennfleck, champion Bel Tan, third placer Meihua Rengjil, and race organizer Jay Diycio pose for a photo during the awards ceremony for the Road to Hell Series 2 last Sunday at the Mariana Resort.



MTB long course 40 to 49 winner Ding Ramos is all smiles after receiving his medal.



Manny Sitchon, center, road bike long course top finisher in the 55 and above age group, joins organizers Ricky Castro, left, and Jay Diycio for a group photo.



Road bike category top overall finisher Ariel Garcia, second left, and runner-up Nap Dizon, third left, are all smiles after receiving their prizes.



MTB long course top overall finisher Mark Isip, third left, is congratulated by race organizer Ricky Castro, left. Also in the photo are third finisher Noel Altamirano, second left, and runner-up Noe Valdisimo, right.



Cesar Fortaleza, center, poses with his first place medal in the MTB long course 50 to 54 division.



MTB long course over 55 winner Boboy Aguilar, third left, and second placer Donald Strover, second left, pose with their medals.



MTB long course 39 and below champion Taiga Sato, second left, and runner-up Ernie Henzon, third left, pose for a photo after getting their medals.



**Tougher tests
to come for
Wentz, high-
flying Eagles**

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Dodgers rally
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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Matansa shuts down Shirley's



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Matansa FC's Razeff Altamirano, left, steals the ball from Shirley's FC's Gabriel Arkoh during the second half of their boys U14 game in the NMIFA youth fall league last Saturday at the Koblerville Elementary School Field.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Matansa Football Club whipped Shirley's FC, 7-0, in the opening game in the boys U14 division of the 2016 NMIFA Youth Fall League last Saturday at the Koblerville Elementary School Field.

Razeff Altamirano, Glenn Mark Basallo, and Iverson Santos scored two goals apiece to lift Matansa to the easy win. Joshua Malig added one goal for Matansa, which set up the lopsided victory after toy- ing around Shirley's defense in the second half. Matansa drilled five goals in the final 35 minutes of



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Duenas Compound crushes Tanapag



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Duenas Compound's J.P. Duenas takes off for a fastbreak layup during the fourth quarter of their game against Tanapag Sports Association in the MIBF outdoor caging last Monday night at the San Antonio court.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Duenas Compound pounced on the hapless Tanapag Sports Association, 81-50, during their open division game in the Mariana Islands Basketball Federation's Inaugural Men's Outdoor League last Monday night at the San Antonio court.



Duenas Compound to post a 31-point winning margin in its debut in the league. Tanapag, on the other hand, absorbed its second loss in as many games as it was also badly beaten in its opening match after bowing to the Junior Ol'Aces last week, 51-92.

Duenas Compound exploded for 42 points in the first

See DUENAS on Page 26

NMA cross country series to start next month

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Local athletics action will resume next month as Northern Marianas Athletics holds a series of cross country races.

NMA will have the first leg of the 2016 All Schools Cross Country Series on Oct.

8 at the CPA Airport Field, beginning at 4pm.

For the second leg set for Oct. 15, student-runners will proceed to the Civic Center Basketball Court in Supe for the start at 7am, while they will return

to the CPA Airport Field for the third leg scheduled for Oct. 22.

To culminate the series, NMA will have the 2016 All Schools Cross Country Championships, which will also take place at the CPA Airport



Field on Nov. 5, beginning at 3pm. All races are for elementary, middle school, and high school students.

After the cross country event, NMA will have two more competitions for the 2016 season. First up is the

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FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Runners head out to the course during the first leg of last year's NMA All Schools Cross Country Series held at the CPA Airport Field.